

AGAWAM

Advertiser-News

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"Your Hometown Newspaper"

Volume XXIII Number 7

February 17, 2000

- Zabielski Resigns On Monday...
- Cavallo Named Interim Principal...

Search For New Agawam High School Principal To Begin Soon

The sudden resignation Monday of Agawam High School Principal Joseph S. Zabielski has initiated a flurry of administrative activity, including the implementation of a search for Zabielski's successor by Superintendent of Schools Dr. Frank A. Ameruso.

Ameruso told *The Advertiser News* Tuesday afternoon that he expected to name a 10-member search committee by March 1st to begin the process of selecting Zabielski's replacement. Ameruso said the make-up of the committee will include school administrators, teachers, parents, and not more than two members of the Agawam School Committee. Ameruso also intends to name a student representative to the search committee.

Ameruso said he gave written notification of the situation to School Committee members on

Friday, February 11th, followed by a written report on Tuesday.

Ameruso, as well as other school officials, would not elaborate on Zabielski's resignation, only echoing Zabielski's statements to the press that it was for "personal reasons."

According to him, he hopes to name a new AHS principal some time in June. Under the state's Education Reform Act, Ameruso is the ultimate authority for picking the new principal for the High School. "Obviously, candidates who would be applying for this position are currently working at other jobs right now, and I am confident the search committee will work diligently and in unison to bring the most qualified candidate to Agawam," said Ameruso.

Ameruso said a nationwide search will be conducted by the search committee, and the position

will be advertised in a national education publication, *The Boston Globe*, *The Springfield Union News*, and *The Hartford Courant*. Ameruso said he will work with the search committee to screen applicants' credentials and to conduct on-site visits to those applicants who reach the final stages of the process.

Asked if this meant he was favoring someone outside the system for the job, Ameruso responded, "I do not know that. People within are certainly eligible to go through the selection process."

Cavallo Appointed Acting Principal...

Ameruso has appointed Deputy Principal Paul A. Cavallo as acting principal. The superintendent has also brought Junior High Assistant Principal Mark Costanzi to the High School for a few hours each day to assist Cavallo and Dean of Students Bernadette Conte with administrative duties.

Cavallo has spent most of his educational career as a guidance counselor at AHS. He was appointed as the deputy principal in 1996 when Zabielski was named the school's permanent principal at the same time. Cavallo became a guidance counselor at the school back in 1971.

Following next week's winter vacation, Ameruso said he plans to appoint a full-time assistant principal. He said this individual would come from the outside, adding he may be looking at an experienced, retired educator to come into AHS. "We need help up there in administration, and at this time this is the way I am leaning," according to him.

Zabielski's sudden depart from AHS on Monday prompted Ameruso to call for a meeting of the staff at the close of school. "I wanted to answer their questions and to assure them of Mr. Zabielski's integrity," Ameruso said. "I also wished to express my confidence in the staff. I do not think we will miss a beat. I have complete confidence in Paul's (Cavallo) ability."

Comprising A Short List Of Priorities...

According to Cavallo, he and Ameruso comprised a short list of priorities that need immediate attention, including the ongoing accreditation process with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). Zabielski had received high marks in this area as the school continues to address areas cited by the NEASC, such as library-media center, curriculum and instruction, and building maintenance.

Ameruso also promised his "hands-on attention for the time being" to the school, but again reiterated his earlier statement about having faith in Cavallo's ability to run AHS during this interim period.

Ameruso called Zabielski "a man with a vision," while School Committee Vice-Chairwoman Rosemary Sandlin added, "Joe Zabielski did many, many positive things for Agawam High, and I feel badly about his resignation."

"But the future of the High School continues to be in the hands of an able staff that can carry on during the search process."



REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) with Senator Edward M. Kennedy (pictured from left to right): Mike Gilbert, MASC Technology Director; Jennifer Handy, MASC Communications Director; Lynn Ryan, Assabet Valley Regional Voc-Tech School Committee, Past President of MASC (Berlin, MA); Rosemary Sandlin, Agawam School Committee Vice-Chairperson, Vice-President of MASC; Senator Kennedy; Deborah Moiles, Oxford School Committee, Secretary/Treasurer of MASC; Nancy Stinger, East Longmeadow School Committee, President of MASC; and Alana Conti, Triton Regional School Committee (Salisbury, MA).

Kennedy Meets With Massachusetts Assoc. Of School Committees Reps.

On Tuesday, February 1st, Senator Edward M. Kennedy met with representatives from the Massachusetts Association of School Committees to discuss educational issues facing the state, including the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, school construction, and class size reduction.

Among the MASC representatives that spoke with the Senator was Rosemary Sandlin, vice-

chairperson of the Agawam School Committee and vice-president of MASC.

"I strongly support continuing the program to reduce class size, and expanding and strengthening support for teacher quality, and turning around failing schools," said Senator Kennedy. "I am hopeful that the Senate will pass strong bipartisan legislation to help provide the best education possible for our nation's children."

SEE AHS PRINCIPAL - Page 2...

AHS PRINCIPAL - from Page 1...

Mrs. Sandlin said, if asked, she would serve on the search committee. She also expanded on Ameruso's plan for a search committee, saying that a second committee, concerned only with credentials of the applicants, might also be a way to proceed.

"I am hoping the whole process will be open to the public with much community input," said Mrs. Sandlin.

Zabielski was a part of Agawam High School for over 30 years, first as a popular and challenging classroom teacher of American History and philosophy for 27 years before being named acting principal in 1995 following the departure of former Principal Russell Furtado.

LEGAL NOTICE**LEGAL NOTICE****TOWN OF AGAWAM
BOARD OF APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, located at 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2000 at 6:45 P.M.**, for all parties interested in the petition of Nextel Communications, Inc. who is seeking to amend a previous Special Permit, Case No. 1552 dated December 2, 1997 granted to Omnipoint Communications. Specifically Paragraph 14, which would allow for the expansion of "the fenced in area," in order to install additional ground equipment, at the premises identified as: 1804 Main Street, Agawam, Massachusetts.

Ronald Hebert, Chairman

Published: February 17, 2000

* * *

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...

* * *

Veterans' Corner...**The National Guard Ordered To Form
17 Additional Counter-Terrorist Teams**

by Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

REUTERS: Defense Secretary William Cohen has ordered the National Guard to form 17 additional small, elite units to help states cope quickly with any terrorist attack using nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons.

The 22-member teams, which would race to the scene of an attack and help local authorities identify the weapon threat, would be added to 10 such National Guard units already formed and currently completing intensive training.

The 27 WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) teams from the Army and Air Force National Guards are part of a growing nationwide civilian and military effort to prepare for what is seen as a growing terrorist threat to the United States.

Only California would have two teams. The 10 groups currently completing training will soon be based in California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington.

With this training, "They (the WMD units) can immediately respond to an incident as part of a state response rather than have to go through the federal wickets," said Secretary Cohen.

The Defense Department has already spent more than \$60 million on the program and would spend another \$75 million in the current financial year 2000 budget. (Source: January/February "Stars and Stripes" National Veterans' Newspaper.)

* * *

The following is the list of Korean War veterans whose Home of Record is Agawam and whose last names begin with the letters "H," "I," or "J." These names will be included on the Agawam Honor Roll.

Next week, we will give an update on the status of the Honor Roll Project.

KOREAN WAR VETS — "H," "I," & "J"
HAGGERTY, WALTER A., JR.

HAMILL, JAMES C.
HANNON, HAROLD W.
HANNON, RICHARD C.
HANSEN, CARL L., JR.
HANSEN, NEIL C.
HARE, CHARLES
HARKINS, FRED W., JR.
HARRISON, RICHARD E.
HART, JOHN J.
HART, ROBERT J.
HARTWIG, GERTRUDE L.
HASELTINE, ROBERT L.
HASTINGS, JARED T.
HASTINGS, JUDSON W.
HEALY, ROBERT J.
HEINEHMAN, RICHARD C.
HERSEY, FREDERICK
HERSEY, ROBERT F.
HESS, JOHN Y.
HEYWOOD, RONALD G.
* HOBBS, CLEMENT B.
HOLLISTER, JAMES A.
HOUSMAN, DUDLEY P.
HOYE, WILLIAM V.
HUCKINS, JOHN F., JR.
HYLAND, JUSTIN R., JR.
HYNES, DAVID A.
HYNES, ROBERT
IMELIO, PETER J.
INMAN, MAHLON D., JR.
IRVING, RONALD E.
ISHMAN, DONALD R.
JAMES, HOWARD D.
JANULEWICZ, ANTHONY I.
JANULEWICZ, STANLEY J.
JENKS, GORDON W.
JENKS, RUSSELL
JERTSON, DAVID W.
JONES, ROBERT D.
(* Died while in service.)

Ruth C. Bitzas' "Veterans' Corner..." is a regular feature of The Agawam Advertiser News...

SCOTT M. HIBBERT

Attorney at Law

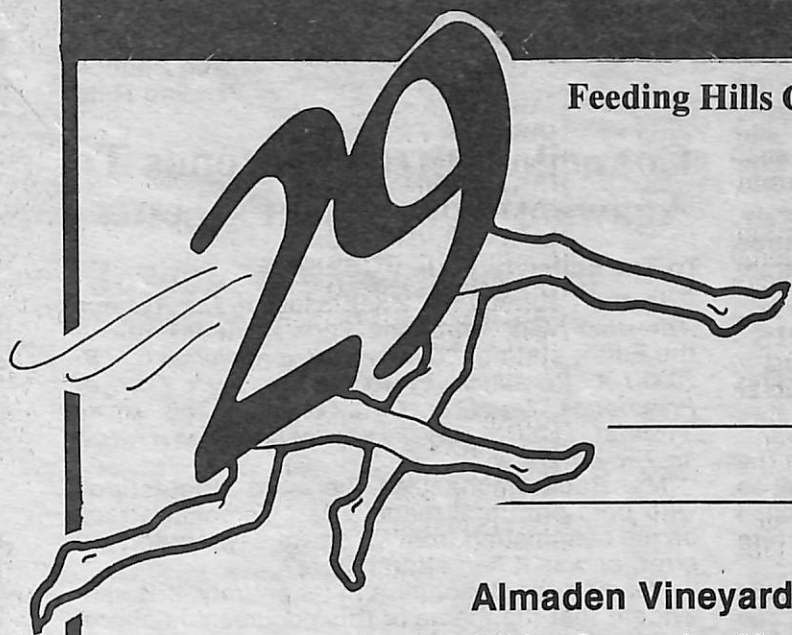
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Mt. Rhine, Golden Chablis, Blush
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Party Box, Chardonnay, Cabernet
Savignon, Merlot, White Zinfandel,
Red Burgundy **\$10.99**

Bolla (1.5 Ltr.)
Pinot Grigio, Soave, Valpolicella,
Bardolino, Merlot **\$9.99**

Riunite (1.5 Ltr.)
Lambrusco, Bianco, Rosato D'oro,
Blush Bianco **\$6.99**

Vendange (1.5 Ltr.)
Cabernet, Merlot,
Chardonnay **\$6.99**

Ecco Domani (750 ml.)
Cabernet, Pinot Grigio, Merlot,
Sangiovere **\$6.99**

Marcus James (750 ml.)
Chardonnay, Cabernet, Merlot,
White Zinfandel **3 For \$9.99**



FEBRUARY LIQUOR SPECIALS

Jack Daniels (1.75 Ltr.) \$26.99	Canadian Club (1.75 Ltr.) \$16.99	Finlandia Vodka (1.75 Ltr.) \$20.99	Southern Comfort (1.75 Ltr.) \$16.99	Fleischmann Whiskey (1.75 Ltr.) \$11.99	
Fleischmann Gin (1.75 Ltr.) \$11.99	Early Times Bourbon (1.75 Ltr.) \$14.99	Clan MacGregor Scotch (1.75 Ltr.) \$12.99	Cossack Vodka (1.75 Ltr.) \$9.99	Black Velvet (1.75 Ltr.) \$12.99	Kahlua (750 ml.) \$12.99

FEBRUARY BEER SPECIALS

Coors & Coors Light (30-Pk.) \$16.99	Harpoon Spring Maibock, Ale, IPA, & Mix (12-Pk.) \$9.99	Carsburg Beer (12-Pk.) \$9.99	Molsen Golden, Canadian, Light, & Ice (12-Pk. Bottles) \$7.99
New Castle (England) (12-Pk.) \$11.99	Red Dog (30-Pk. Cans) \$10.99	Ice House (30-Pk. Cans) \$10.99	Busch (Bar Bottles) \$9.99

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568-4377

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Letters To The Editor

A Letter Of Congratulations And Praise To "My Daughter"

My Daughter:

Words can never describe how I feel for you. Each night after seven hours of school, hours of homework, and three hours of practice, you come home and show your newest competition conquest and how your muscles have developed, all with a sense of pride and a smile still on your beautiful face! How proud I am of you!

You are the State Champions and earned it ... we saw you ... we were with every move you made ... we smiled and cheered with you ... and we hurt with you as you extended the physical and emotional limits of your being ... you are TRUE athletes!

Thank you for being a role model for me. You are truly a young woman to be admired for all your strength, dedication, spirit, courage, and desire to make every day count. You are a true champion and showed that at the Cheerleading Nationals.

I have never been so proud of you as I was that day ... after competing in the first round and realizing that it was as far as you could go at the National competition, you all came together as one (again, as you and your team always do) and, as THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS CHEERLEADING CHAMPIONS, supported and cheered on Chicopee, MA, for the whole next day as they continued. You are a CHAMPION.

I heard you say that you couldn't wait to get home to practice so "y'all can kick butt next year!" I'm sure that all of the parents and especially your coaches will agree, WE BELIEVE YOU!

I know that your future is bright, as you have always tried your best in all your endeavors and no one can take that from you! I look forward to watching you continue on your journey into womanhood.

Thank you for being you, my daughter, I love you.
Your Mom

Let's Discourage Six Flags Traffic From Using River Rd.

To The Editor:

An Open Letter To Timothy Black, Vice President/General Manager, Six Flags of N.E.:

I imagine that you have been expecting to hear from me any day now regarding the new billboard on the South End Bridge. I was very disappointed to once again see that River Road is being advertised as a route to Six Flags N.E. This approach shows a complete disregard for public safety.

Allow me to review the reasons I listed in the previous letters I have sent to you. River Road is a residential side street. The fact that it is long and straight is only because it follows the river. It is not a highway. There are no traffic lights to control the flow of traffic. There are no crosswalks to allow for the safe crossing of pedestrians nor are there any breakdown lanes to provide for any emergencies. In most areas, there is as little as three feet from the sidewalk to the white line at the edge of the traffic line.

Now, allow me to create a scenario for you. It is a hot July Saturday morning. River Road is packed with cars that have followed the directions posted on the Six Flags billboard. At that moment, an emergency situation arises. It could be any number of things. An elderly resident living on Florida Drive having chest pains or perhaps a 10-year-old baseball player gets hit in the forehead by a line drive at Borgatti Field. Maybe an overloaded circuit starts a fire in a back bedroom on Barney Road.

What do all of these events have in common, you ask? Well, none of these locations can be reached by any other means other than River Road. There is no other way in. So now, River Road is completely backed up with Six Flags patrons anxious to get to the water park. There is no way for the emergency vehicles to get through. No breakdown lanes in which to pass.

At the very least, the emergency vehicles would be seriously delayed. Now think about the effect that would have on each of the situations I mentioned. Now I realize I have created a very dramatic scenario, but is it really that far-fetched?

If enough Six Flags patrons learn about River Road, there will most certainly be major bottlenecks come the summer months. Are the emergency situations I mentioned that uncommon?

The local area residents all know about using River Road to get to your Park. They don't need a billboard to tell them it's the quickest way in. Why not leave River Road to them and not the millions of Park patrons that will be streaming across the South End Bridge come summer.

The problem with directing traffic to River Road is that there is no way to limit the volume of traffic. Once any of your patrons use River Road, they will always go that way. River Road can handle some of the traffic from the Park, but I'm afraid that your sign will open the floodgates for an overwhelming amount of traffic that River Road is not designed to handle.

I challenge you and the rest of the management of Six Flags N.E. to not only stop directing traffic onto River Road, but to go a step further and discourage Six Flags traffic from utilizing River Road altogether.

Sincerely,
Todd Peetros
Agawam

Feeding Hills Resident Offers His Support For John McCain

To The Editor:

Now that Agawam has placed its future in the capable hands of our new Mayor, Rich Cohen, as well as seemingly cooperative Town Council, I think it's time for us to look at the bigger picture - the upcoming Presidential Primaries.

In my opinion, John McCain is clearly the best choice as a 'people's candidate.' Certainly, the others have their individual merits, but for the complete package of capability, character, and courage, Senator McCain seems to have it all.

Putting aside, for a moment, the fact that he endured more suffering at the hands of our enemy in Vietnam than any American should ever have to - when, as an Admiral's son, he could have gone home and left his fellow soldiers behind; John McCain stands for something.

I believe he stands for the American way of life we knew as children. Where people stood and put their hands over their hearts when the National Anthem was played. When the Office of the Presidency was respected and revered by all. And when we put our God, our Country, and our family, before the almighty dollar.

If you feel the same as I do, please cast your vote for Senator McCain in the Primary on March 7th. If you are currently registered as a Democrat and you haven't 'un-enrolled' for this election, you've unfortunately missed the Feb. 16th deadline to do so.

You can, however, help in getting the word out by going to his web-site, www.mccain2000.com, or you can contact me at 789-4974. Remember, our government is only as good as the people we elect to run it.

Gary Winn
Feeding Hills

Three Cheers For Agawam High's Varsity Cheerleaders

To The Editor:

I was privileged and honored to attend the UCA National Cheerleading Competition in Orlando, Florida, with the Agawam High School Varsity Cheerleaders and Booster Parents from February 3rd-8th. I wanted to take this opportunity not only to thank them for an experience of my lifetime, but also to commend them for their respect, sportsmanship, and dedication that earned them the Massachusetts title and a bid toward the national title.

I witnessed first-hand the respect that they demonstrated toward their coaches and each other, and the sportsmanship they displayed in

"cheering" on their competitors. They are the epitome of a true TEAM.

I also believe that the Booster Parents need to be recognized for their dedication and support toward this TEAM. And I know I speak not only for myself, but for others, when I say that Kim Hebert and Donna Bodurtha deserve the utmost gratitude for their countless hours of dedication in molding these girls into what they are today as athletes. It is because of them that all their dreams came true this past week.

Congratulations, girls! I look forward again to the experience next year!

Ann Phillips
Feeding Hills

Councilor Bitzas Responds To Agawam Constituent's Letter

To The Editor:

In the February 10, 2000 issue of *The Agawam Advertiser News*, Ernestine Book wrote a letter to the Editor stating, "George's latest resolution is 'TR-2000-1-A Resolution Protecting the High Cost of Prescription Drugs in Our Country.' This is no misprint. This is exactly the way the resolution is written in *The Advertiser*."

Ms. Book emphasized the word "Protecting" with bold print and made a very personal attack on me culminating from an obvious typographical error, or was it something more?

Reading the Resolution in its entirety, it is very evident that the theme of this document is of protest with that very word embodied within the Resolution. Unfortunately, the context of the Resolution provided to *The Advertiser* contained the typographical error that not even today's computer technology could catch! Not only did I write the word "Protecting" in the Resolution, I read and spoke about it during the televised council meeting on February 7, 2000.

In the next edition of *The Advertiser* dated February 3, 2000, the correct version of the Resolution appeared with the word "Protecting" as was in the original formal Resolution presented and unanimously passed by the Agawam Town Council. With this correction, why did Ms. Book allow her letter to be printed knowing she was wrong in her allegations?

Ms. Book knew that the word "Protecting" in the Resolution's title was printed in error in the January 27, 2000 *Advertiser* with "Protecting" being the obvious word intended. The entire context of her inexcusable comments is libelous.

Thank you,
Sincerely,
George Bitzas, Councilor

Bitzas Has Done Much For The Town Of Agawam

To The Editor:

In last week's *Agawam Advertiser News*, there appeared an unfairly written letter against Councilor George Bitzas.

We all know who Councilor Bitzas is and what he has done for our town and for all of us. I was elected many times by the Agawam people to the School Committee and the City Council. I worked with Councilor Bitzas and I believe him to be one of the finest councilors. He is a hard-working individual, caring about our town and all of us.

I would like to thank him and all those councilors who supported George's resolution, TR-99-35, last year - a resolution encouraging our Federal and State legislators to increase Medicare and Medical payments for prescription drugs for our senior citizens.

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...



The Agawam Advertiser•News

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LETTERS - from Page 4...

I would also express my thanks to the present council, who voted 11-0 supporting him and his resolution, *TR-2000-1 — a resolution protesting the high cost of prescription drugs in our country.*

I agree with one of the councilors, who quoted the late U.S. Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill, who said, "All the politics are local." We all know the unfair high cost of prescription drugs, and we all must raise our voices and protest. Indeed, we pay too much.

Something must be done to bring down the cost of prescription drugs.

Sincerely,
Jessie D. Fuller
Agawam

Member of the Veterans' Council and former
Town Councilor and School Committee member

Joseph Zabielski Will Be Sorely Missed At AHS

To The Editor:

I am very disturbed about the sudden resignation of Joseph Zabielski from Agawam High School. It has been through Mr. Zabielski's undying dedication to the students of Agawam and to the staff of the High School that AHS is as good a school as it is today.

This is a man who has lent his support to athletics, class activities, extra-curricular activities, and his staff. He is the one person whose professional decisions were always based on **what is best for the students.** He is the one person who truly believes that **school and education are for the students.**

He encouraged high attendance rates because students can learn only if they are in school. He worked adamantly at getting students to class on time because tardiness disrupts the educational process. He supported zero tolerance because drugs interfere with a student's education.

He spent endless hours examining and evaluating MCAS scores, and he visited ninth- and 10th-grade classes every year in order to impress upon the students how important these tests are to the future of their education. He also did this in order to see where these students needed to improve their education and then did everything in his power to help them to improve.

He has been diligent not only in exercising his discipline policy, but also in examining it and changing it to meet the needs of today's students and today's society. He has made the students and the staff at Agawam High School feel safe. He has taken opportunities to support the

students in their extra-curricular activities by attending school-related events and by complimenting them publicly for their achievements.

He was always willing to sit down and **talk with the students, not at them.** He always involved his staff in budget-making decisions and often had difficult choices to make. But in making those decisions, he did what was best for the students. His door was always open.

And while all of us may not have always agreed with everything that Mr. Zabielski did, we do know that he had **his battles to fight, and they were always fought for the students and their benefit.** He stepped into his position as principal under less-than-desirable conditions and with staff morale at an all-time low, and he turned Agawam High School around to face the right direction.

He is a good man, and he will be sorely missed.

Sincerely,
Kathleen A. Mounimeh
Feeding Hills

Thank You For Your Support Of The 1999 CROPWALK

To The Editor:

On behalf of the people who ate 18,000 meals in our dining room last year and the 600 households who count on us for emergency food, I want to thank you for the \$3,362.50 that we received in the 1999 CROPWALK.

I realize that the remainder of the \$13,450 raised in the Agawam/West Springfield event supports programs like ours all over the world. What an awesome gift CROPWALK is to hungry people.

Being from Iowa, I know what it takes to yield a great harvest. Thank you to Bill Wildey, Rob Donaldson, Cassie Gilman, and Bob Broga, who planted the seeds of interest. Thank you to the volunteers from the Agawam churches and to our host church, St. David's, for cultivating the soil prior to and during the event. And thank you to the faithful of Agawam, Feeding Hills, and West Springfield who were present to assure a bountiful harvest.

The funds you sent are necessary to our mission. We depend on the community, especially the Christian community, to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, and share God's love with the poor. We look forward to future growth in this very fertile soil.

Very truly yours,
Candy A. Boucher
Executive Director
Parish Cupboard

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...

Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

Some Tips On Choosing And Using A Fire Extinguisher

Most fires start small, and it is at this stage that if a fire extinguisher is handy, it could put out the fire or keep it from spreading. You should only attempt to fight a fire with a fire extinguisher when it is small and in its early stage.

If your exit could potentially be blocked by fire, don't attempt to fight the fire. Instead, get out of the building.

The Agawam Fire Department provides the following hints on purchasing and using a fire extinguisher:

- Most fire extinguishers operate this way:
 1. Pull the locking pin.
 2. Aim at the base of the flames.
 3. Squeeze the handle.
 4. Sweep back and forth over the burning area.
- The contents of most extinguishers last less than 30 to 60 seconds. Aim carefully at the base of the flame.

• Fire extinguishers are meant to fight only small fires (no bigger around than a trash can). Fighting too large a fire can be dangerous.

• Whenever a fire occurs, get everyone out first and call the Agawam Fire Department at 911. Then use your extinguisher if the fire is still small enough.

• All fire extinguishers are not alike. They are marked with the letter(s) indicating the type of fire they can put out:

"A" — Ordinary fuels such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber, and plastics.

"B" — Flammable liquids like gasoline, kerosene, oil, paint, and kitchen grease.

"C" — Electricity.

"D" — Metals.

• Purchase a multi-purpose extinguisher with a "BC" or "ABC" label for typical home use.

• Install extinguishers.

• Check the pressure gauge on your extinguisher periodically to see if it needs recharging. Look in the phone book for professionals to fill and recharge extinguishers.

• Always refill or replace a used extinguisher immediately. Never put it back empty. An empty extinguisher is dangerous for someone else to use.

For further information, call the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

* * *

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the hometown news, each
and every week ... AAN!!!

* * *

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Regular Council Meeting Agenda

Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street
Tuesday, February 22nd — 7:30 P.M.

1. Citizen's Speak Time.
2. Roll Call.
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Minutes - Special Council Meeting of 1/21/2000; Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 2/7/2000.
5. Declaration from Council President.
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances

(a) Resolutions

1. TR-2000-5- A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of John J. Negrucci, 36 Hayes Ave., FH, MA to the Board of Health for a Three Year Term Expiring the First Monday in February, 2003 (Mayor).
2. TR-2000-6- A Resolution Authorizing the Posting of the Warrant for the Presidential Preference Primary Election of March 7, 2000 by the Board of Registrars (Mayor).
3. TR-2000-7- A Resolution Confirming the Appointments of Edward P. Shibley and Jason E. Freeman to the Agawam Planning Board for Terms Expiring January 1, 2005 (Mayor).
4. TR-2000-8- A Resolution Confirming the Appointments of Karla M. Young, David Cecchi and Richard Bellico to the Historical Commission for Terms Expiring January 1, 2003 (Mayor).
5. TR-2000-9- A Resolution Confirming the Appointments of Dean T. Godek and Michael Day to the Municipal Golf Commission for Term Expiring December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2001 (Mayor).
6. TR-2000-10- A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Dorothy Drewnowski, 886 Main St., Apt. No. 8, Aga., MA to the Agawam Housing Authority for a Term Expiring the Second Monday of January, 2005 (Mayor).
7. TR-2000-11- Resolution to thank and congratulate Rep. Dan Keenan (Coun. Letellier).

7. Report of Council Committees

None.

8. Elections

None.

9. Public Hearings

(a)

1. PH-2000-2-Agawam Fire Tower (Conducted Public Hearing and Tabled on 2/7/2000).
2. PH-2000-3-(TOR-2000-1)-An Ordinance to add Sec. 180-112 to the Zoning Code of the Town of Agawam Relative to Special Permit for Parking or Loading Requirement Reduction (Conduct Public Hearing).

10. Old Business

(a)

1. TOR-2000-2-An Ordinance to Amend Ch. 49, Entitled Personnel of the Code of the Town of Agawam (Mayor)(1st Reading)(Tabled and Ref. to Ordin. Comm. on 2/7/2000).
2. TO-2000-13-Transfer-\$15,000 from Line Item - Reserve Fund (16605-57300) to Law Department - Salaries (11511-51010) (Mayor)(Tabled on 2/7/2000).
3. TO-2000-14-Transfer-\$25,000 from Line Item - Reserve Fund (16605-57300) to Fire Department - Overtime (12201-51030) (Mayor)(Tabled and Ref. to Finance Comm. on 2/7/2000).
4. TO-2000-15-Renewal of Class II Dealer License - Auto Kraft Auto Sales, 119 Walnut St., Aga., MA.

* * *

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street (in the Crossroads Shoppes), Feeding Hills, or mail them (with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

* * *

Melconian Welcomes Jacqueline T. Reynolds As Her Latest Intern

Senate Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is pleased to welcome Jacqueline T. Reynolds as an intern in her district office. Jacqueline's internship was made available through the Transformational Leadership Honors Program at Our Lady of the Elms College under the direction of Sr. Carla Oleska. Her internship will take place from February until the end of April.

Jacqueline is a sophomore at Our Lady of the Elms College, double majoring in Special Education and History. She is involved in school activities, such as Student Government Association, Student Senate, Community Chorus, and Liturgical Choir. She is also captain of the Cross Country and Swimmings-teams at Our Lady of the Elms College.

Jacqueline is originally from Pittsfield, Massachusetts, where she received several awards in recognition of her school and community service participation during high school.

Her interest in history and politics has expanded through her studies at Our Lady of the Elms College.

"An internship at Senator Melconian's District Office would allow me to explore government at the state level and gain experience to the individuals who are affected by the government," comments Jacqueline. "I would like to thank Senator Melconian for giving me this opportunity to gain knowledge that would not be obtained in the academic classroom."

Senator Melconian, an alumna of Mount Holyoke College, is the Majority Leader in the Massachusetts Senate. She was a prosecuting attorney and Assistant Legal Counsel to the late Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr., former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Senator Melconian, who was a legislative intern during her college years, is happy to provide an opportunity for students in college who are interested in public life. Jacqueline will be observing the functions of a political and legislative office through shadowing staff, performing research and aiding the office personnel.

School Committee Agenda For Meeting Of Tuesday, Feb. 22nd

1. Call to Order
2. Moment of Silence
3. Citizens' Speak Time
4. Roll Call of Attendance
5. Superintendent's Notes
6. Highlights on Education
7. Old Business
 - a. SCR-00-8: Acceptance of Donation/Gift
 - b. SCR-00-10: Adoption of 2000-2001 School Calendar
 - c. SCR-00-12: Graduation Ceremonies
8. Business Meeting:
 - a. Routine Matters
 - 1) Approval of Minutes
 - 2) Calendar/Correspondence
 - b. Warrants/Transfers
 - c. Reports
9. New Business:
 - a. SCR-00-13: Approval for Building Use
 - b. SCR-00-14: Approval of Advanced Mathematics Concepts Textbooks
 - c. SCR-00-15: Approval of Environmental Science Textbooks
10. Policy Review:
 - Second Reading
 - "JCB" Assignment of Multiple Birth Students
11. Any other action which may legally come before the Committee
12. Adjournment

Our office will be open on Presidents' Day (Monday, February 21st) ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

Senator Melconian Provides Relief For Widows Of Veterans

Senate Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is proud to announce the Senate passage of a bill she co-sponsored allowing the widows of severely disabled veterans to retain their husbands' property tax exemption. In the past, the exemption expired upon the death of the veteran.

"These men and women made extraordinary sacrifices for their country," said Melconian. "It is unconscionable that veterans' families should suffer extreme financial hardship through a government loophole."

The bill prospectively covers the widows of severely disabled and highly decorated veterans. The legislation allows the widows of the following classes of veterans to continue to receive a property tax exemption:

- \$425 for veterans suffering the loss of one limb or eye;
- \$425 for recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, or the Air Force Cross;
- \$775 for veterans suffering the loss of two limbs;
- \$950 for totally disabled veterans in specially adapted housing; and...
- \$600 for disabled veterans unable to work.

Under current law, the death of a disabled veteran results in significant hardship for his surviving spouse. Not only do they forfeit their property tax exemption, surviving spouses also lose the bulk of their disability compensation.

The combined effect of these twin blows can mean a two-thirds reduction in a family's budget. At least 16 other states have already moved to extend property tax exemptions.

"This bill would help to ease a serious burden at one of the most difficult times in anyone's life," said Melconian. "It is the least we can do for families that have already given so much for their country."

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 24, 2000 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Six Flags New England for work to be performed on a Main Street sewer line, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: February 17, 2000

LEGAL NOTICE

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TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 24, 2000 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Six Flags New England for work to be performed on the west side of Main Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: February 17, 2000

HOMETOWN

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From The Dangerous Winter Chill...

Melconian Votes To Help Low-Income Families This Winter

Senate Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced that the Senate unanimously voted recently to provide \$10 million to help defray the home heating oil costs of low-income residents across the state. The additional funds come in response to soaring prices that have triggered one of the worst heating oil crises in the last decade.

"Shelter and warmth are among people's most elemental and urgent needs," said Melconian. "When home heating oil prices double in the space of three weeks, it is all of our problem. The Massachusetts Senate is responding to this critical need."

Over the last three weeks, the price of home heating oil has risen from \$1.17 a gallon on January 17th to its current level of \$2.04 a gallon. The sharp increase has placed extraordinary strain on organizations such as Citizens Energy Corp., a provider of low-cost heating oil, which has been forced to stop accepting new applications for service. A recent emergency grant of \$10 million from the federal government has already been exhausted.

It is expected that the additional \$10 million will help 20,000 to 25,000 families across the state. A family of four would qualify for assistance under this program if their total income is less than \$29,669 (175 percent of the federal poverty level).

The money will be added as a supplement to the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. The bill must pass the House of Representatives and be signed by Governor Cellucci before it becomes law.

"Thousands of families across the state are freezing right now," said Melconian. "I hope the House and the Governor act quickly to meet this urgent need."

Please patronize your local businesses...

* * *

— Agawam Obituaries —

Beatrice J. Borus

Beatrice J. Borus, 98, of 1200 Suffield Street, Agawam, died recently in town.

She worked at Greeting Service Corp. of Webster and retired in 1972.

Born in Manchaug, she lived in Webster before moving to Agawam.

She was a life member of the Clara Barton Order of the Eastern Star in Oxford and a member of Webster United Church of Christ.

Her husband, Frank Borus, died in 1962, and a daughter, Lorraine G. Daigneau, in 1970.

She leaves a granddaughter, Crystal L. Johnson, with whom she lived; two great-granddaughters; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to United Church of Christ, Webster, MA 01570. Miller Funeral Home of Webster was in charge of the arrangements.

James C. Lynch

James C. Lynch, 86, of 33 Morse Street, Ludlow, and formerly of Agawam, died recently at a local nursing home.

He was a 33-year toolmaker for Chandler Evans Inc. of Connecticut.

Born and schooled in Hartford, CT, he lived in Ludlow since 1987 after moving from Agawam.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church and a member of the Over-60 Club, both in Agawam.

He leaves his wife, the former Laurette Lacasse; a stepson, Robert Brochu of Plano, Texas; a stepdaughter, Louise C. Brochu of Agawam; and three stepgrandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, both in Agawam, with burial in Mount St. Benedict Cemetery in Bloomfield, CT.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Antoinette N. Allwood

Antoinette N. (Nault) Allwood, 89, formerly of 61 Alfred Circle, Agawam, died recently at a local nursing home.

Born in Thingwick, Quebec, she lived in Hartford, CT, for 22 years before moving to Agawam in

1953.

She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

Her husband, Albert L. Allwood, died in 1997.

She leaves nieces and nephews.

The funeral was scheduled for Thursday morning, February 17th, at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, with burial in Pine Hill Cemetery, Westfield. A calling hour was scheduled to precede the funeral.

Robert L. Woyan

Robert Louis Woyan, 68, of Horsham Place, Feeding Hills, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was the administrator of Wagner-Moog Co. for 35 years.

Born and schooled in West Virginia, he was an Air Force and Army veteran.

He leaves his wife, the former Shizuko Kagi, and a daughter, Rika Woyan of Agawam.

The funeral was scheduled for Thursday evening, February 17th, at Colonial Funeral Home, with a private burial. Calling hours were scheduled to precede the service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Point Pleasant High School Alumni Association, in care of Betty Sue Kauff, 119 South Park Drive, Point Pleasant, WV 25550.

David M. Wissel

Suffield: David M. Wissel, 33, of this town, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA.

He was the vice-president of marketing for Basketball World in Suffield for 12 years.

Born in Trenton, New Jersey, he lived in Wilbraham, MA, before moving to Suffield five years ago.

He attended Springfield College and played varsity basketball there.

He was a member of Children International and a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam.

He leaves his parents, Hal R. and Trudy J. (Rader) Wissel of Suffield; three brothers, Steven R., Scott D., and Paul R., all of Suffield; and a

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 8...

Owner
Charlie Grasso

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OBITUARIES - from Page 7...

sister, Sharon E. Wissel of Worcester, MA.

A private Mass was scheduled to be celebrated at the church, with private burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery. Agawam Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Children International, Box 219055, Kansas City, MO 64121.

Laurence J. Pohner

Laurence J. Pohner, 61, of Foxboro, MA, died recently at Milford-Whitinsville Regional Hospital in Milford, MA.

He was a manufacturing engineer at Waters Corp. of Milford for 21 years.

Born in Springfield, he lived in Agawam before moving to Foxboro 19 years ago.

He was a 1962 graduate of the Wentworth Institute in Boston and Northeastern University, also in Boston, in 1972.

He was formerly active with the Foxboro Youth Baseball Association.

He leaves his wife, the former Estella A. Follett; two sons, Laurence J. Jr. and Timothy J., both of Foxboro; his mother, Erma K. (Letellier) Pohner of Agawam; three sisters, Mary A. Pohner, Mildred A. Pohner, and Patricia A. Uschmann, all of Agawam; and two brothers, Gerald of Agawam and Richard of Springfield.

The funeral took place on Thursday morning, February 17th, at Sacred Heart Church in Springfield. Roberts & Sons Funeral Home of Foxboro was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial donations may be made to the Foxboro Youth Baseball Association, in care of Stewart Bayuk, P.O. Box 85, Foxboro, MA 02035.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

The Agawam City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 22, 2000 at 7:30 at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Agawam Planning Board for a proposed amendment to the Agawam Zoning Ordinance, Section 180-112, entitled "Special Permit for Parking or Loading Requirement Reduction." A copy of the proposed zoning amendment can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office or the Agawam Town Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:40 P.M. in the Agawam City Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

Published: February 17, 2000

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, located at 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2000 at 6:30 P.M., for all parties interested in the petition of Roger Poirier who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the alteration of a structure (building) at the premises identified as: 230 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts.

Ronald Hebert, Chairman

Published: February 17, 2000

LEGAL NOTICE

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TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, located at 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2000 at 7:00 P.M., for all parties interested in the petition of Country Estates Partnership, DBA Country Estates who is seeking an extension to a previously granted Special Permit, (Case 1192) dated April 7th, 1998, which would allow for the construction of an addition to the existing structure at the premises identified as: 1200 Suffield Street, Agawam, Massachusetts.

Ronald Hebert, Chairman

Published: February 17, 2000

* * *

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...

* * *

Guidelines For Open Burning In Agawam

The Department of Environmental Protection has designated January 15, 2000 through May 1, 2000 for open burning. Certain guidelines have been established and must be adhered to.

According to Agawam Fire Chief David A. Pisano, the Agawam Fire Department will issue and monitor each permit on a daily basis. Permits will only be issued weather permitting, and only to those locations meeting guidelines.

1. Burning of brush, cane driftwood, and forestry debris will be allowed.

2. No grass, hay leaves, stumps, paper products, trash of any kind will be allowed. **CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED AT ANY TIME.**

3. Burning shall take place between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

4. **NO COMMERCIAL OR INSTITUTIONAL BURNING PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED.**

5. Burning shall be at a location greater than 75 feet from any dwelling or structure.

6. Outside burning for cooking purposes is allowed.

7. **NEVER USE GASOLINE TO START THE FIRE.**

8. Someone must attend the fire until completely extinguished. Have water supply handy at all times.

ANY FIRE WHICH IS DETERMINED TO BE A HEALTH HAZARD OR NUISANCE, WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE EXTINGUISHED IMMEDIATELY.

All permits will be issued from Fire Headquarters, 800 Main Street, Agawam. The phone number is 786-2662.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE "911" NUMBER TO CALL FOR PERMITS.

Ag. Historical Assoc. To Host West Side Soc. On March 29th

The Agawam Historical Association is pleased to announce its Winter/Spring 2000 Program and Schedule of Events.

All programs will take place on Wednesdays at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam. Programs begin at 7:00 p.m., with refreshments following. The Agawam Historical Association welcomes all to its meetings and its membership.

Program Chair Marilyn Curry put a lot of thought into this year's schedule. "We designed this year's programs to appeal to a broad spectrum of history lovers. From the early days of the Pilgrims to the Civil War to more modern times during the construction of Quabbin Reservoir, we have a little something for everyone."

The association plays host to West Springfield's Ramapogue Historical Society on Wednesday, March 29th. Dennis Picard speaks on the role of the ironclad *U.S.S. Agawam* during the Civil War. This interesting presentation is a must-see for all Civil War buffs.

The Agawam Historical Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 24th. A modest fee will be charged for this meeting, as a catered buffet will be offered. Following a short business meeting, noted author J.R. Green will speak on Dana, Enfield, Prescott, and Greenwich—the four towns lost in the creation of the Quabbin Reservoir.

Additional information will be available nearer the dates of these programs. The Agawam Historical Association hopes you can attend.

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Thank you from the Leonard House trustees.

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Families

To Benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters...

“Bowl For Kids’ Sake” Slated For March 26th & 26th

Bob Pouliot, a member of the Big Brothers Big Sisters board of directors, goes bowling only once a year. He joins countless others in the community who unite at the AMF Chicopee bowling lanes to throw strikes on behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampden County.

Pouliot, recently retired from Mass Mutual, captains a team that includes his wife, Patricia, and several of his buddies in the community to help raise money for the community non-profit mentoring agency. “Although we only bowl once a year, we have a lot of fun at *Bowl for Kids’ Sake*, and it feels great knowing that we will be helping young kids in the community get a Big Brother,” declared Pouliot.

Getting A Team Together

Pouliot is chairing this year’s fundraiser to be held on Saturday, March 25th and Sunday, March 26th at the AMF Chicopee lanes at the end of Interstate 291 and the Springfield Exit of the Massachusetts Turnpike. Lane times are Saturday, 9:00 and 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., and Sunday at 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Pouliot got together recently with Feeding Hills Little Sister Nicole Waterman and her Big Sister volunteer Tricia Raymond at the bowling alley to prepare for the event. “We bowled last year on a friend’s team. This year, I am starting my own team and asking some more friends to join us. My Little Sister, Nicole, will be our biggest cheerleader,” said Raymond.

Team captains are needed now to form teams of co-workers, friends, neighbors, and family. “I am living proof that you don’t have to be a ‘real’ bowler to participate and to have fun. I’m encouraging folks to get some friends together and be a team captain,” said Pouliot. “Just call 781-4730 to register a team,” he stated.

The bowling weekend of March 25th and 26th, when the weather is usually milder, will be festive with special decorations and music at the lanes. Bowling and shoes are free. There will be door prizes, refreshments, and giveaways. There are automatic prizes for bowlers who raise significant amounts.

Captains usually have a circle of friends or people they work with who would like to have some friendly competition. They pick Saturday or Sunday and a lane time that is convenient for them. Each bowler then asks people to sponsor them, either with a lump sum or “per pin” amount, such as 25 cents per pin. Sponsors range from the boss to family members and include neighbors, plumbers, mechanics, or neighborhood merchants.

Call 781-4730 for more information or to register.



“LITTLE SISTER” NICOLE WATERMAN of Feeding Hills practices her bowling game at the AMF Chicopee lanes in preparation for the March 25th-26th “Bowl for Kids’ Sake,” a fundraiser for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampden County. Call 781-4730 for information or register for this event online at www.bigbrothers-sisters.org.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.

* * * * *

On Saturday, March 4th...

Corned Beef And Cabbage Dinner At Spfld. Turnverein

Shake off the winter blues and join us at the Springfield Turnverein for a corned beef and cabbage dinner dance on Saturday, March 4th, starting at 6:00 p.m.

The dinner includes corned beef, cabbage with all trimmings, boiled potatoes, bread and butter, coffee, and cake. Dinner is being served from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 per person and are available at the Springfield Turnverein.

Our D.J. will be playing for your dancing pleasure from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Please call the Club at 786-0924 for reservations no later than February 29th.

On Wednesday, March 1st...

19th Annual Agawam Day Picnic Slated In Florida

The 19th Annual Agawam Day picnic will be held on Wednesday, March 1st, at Fred Howard Park in Tarpon Springs, Florida, at shelter number 5.

Please bring your lunch, beverage, and chairs. We welcome new friends and love to see old friends.

Of course, donations for our door prize table are more than welcome.

For more information, please contact Betty Grady, (727) 938-7521; Evelyn Martel, (727) 937-0018; or Joan & Bill Martel, (727) 938-3272.

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the site: <http://pages.map.com/turn-styles/>

Clark Students Deliver "Valentines For Seniors"

The students at James Clark School were busy during the beginning of February, making Valentine's Day cards as part of their "Big Help" projects.

This month's theme was "Valentines for Seniors," and all students were asked to make their own cards. A special Valentine mailbox was placed near the office to collect their creations.

On February 13th, members of the school's Student Council delivered the Valentines to the residents at Country Estates Nursing Home in Agawam. The students, from the third and fourth grades, were asked to represent the school and help pass out the cards. The residents of Country Estates were so happy with the visit they showed their appreciation by providing punch and cookies for the students.

This community service project is just one of five different themes the school is involved with throughout the school year. Taking a cue from Nickelodeon TV's "Big Help" theme, the James Clark PTO thinks of projects each year to get the students more aware of helping others in the community.

In October, the school participated in News 40's "Coats for Kids" campaign and donated almost 100 coats. December's project was a food drive and mitten tree, with everything collected given to the Agawam Junior Women's Club for use in their Christmas basket program.

The last two projects will be a soda can tab collection in April for the Shriners Hospital, and an old eyeglasses collection in June for the Agawam Lions Club.

Agawam Chamber Of Commerce To Sponsor Legislative Breakfast

The Agawam Chamber of Commerce will hold a legislative breakfast Friday, February 25th at 7:15 a.m. at The Oaks, 1070 Suffield Street.

Sponsored by Woronoco Savings Bank, local legislators will address community business professionals and detail their legislative goals and objectives for the year. Mayor Richard Cohen, City Council President Robert Magovern, Rep. Daniel F. Keenan, and Sen. Linda J. Melconian will be on hand for this open discussion.

Cost for the event is \$12, and reservations must be made in writing and in advance. For more information or for a reservation form, call Events Coordinator Laurie Brunelle at (413) 755-1313.

ADVERTISER NEWS



CLARK PTO MEMBERS recently brought the schoolchildren to visit the residents of Country Estates Nursing Home and distribute Valentine's Day cards to everyone. Front row: Elizabeth Breault, Brandon Chase, Alex Koulgeorge, D.J. Koulgeorge, and Angela DePalma. Back row: Brittney Bryant, Ashley Breault, Sarah St. Germain, Cori Geiger, Kelly LeGrand, Rachel Goodman, and Denise Gates. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



YOUNGSTERS AND THE YOUNG-AT-HEART enjoy each others' company in celebration of Valentine's Day. Back row: Country Estates activities aide Sarah Ryder with residents Ruth Brown, John Syriac, Lauretta DePalteo, Irma Dufresny, Betty Rapa, Laura Hardina, and Louise Williams. Front row: Clark School students Sean Walsh, Cori Geiger, Kelly LeGrand, Sarah St. Germain, and Brandon Chase. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



DARKER IMAGE

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Salon*

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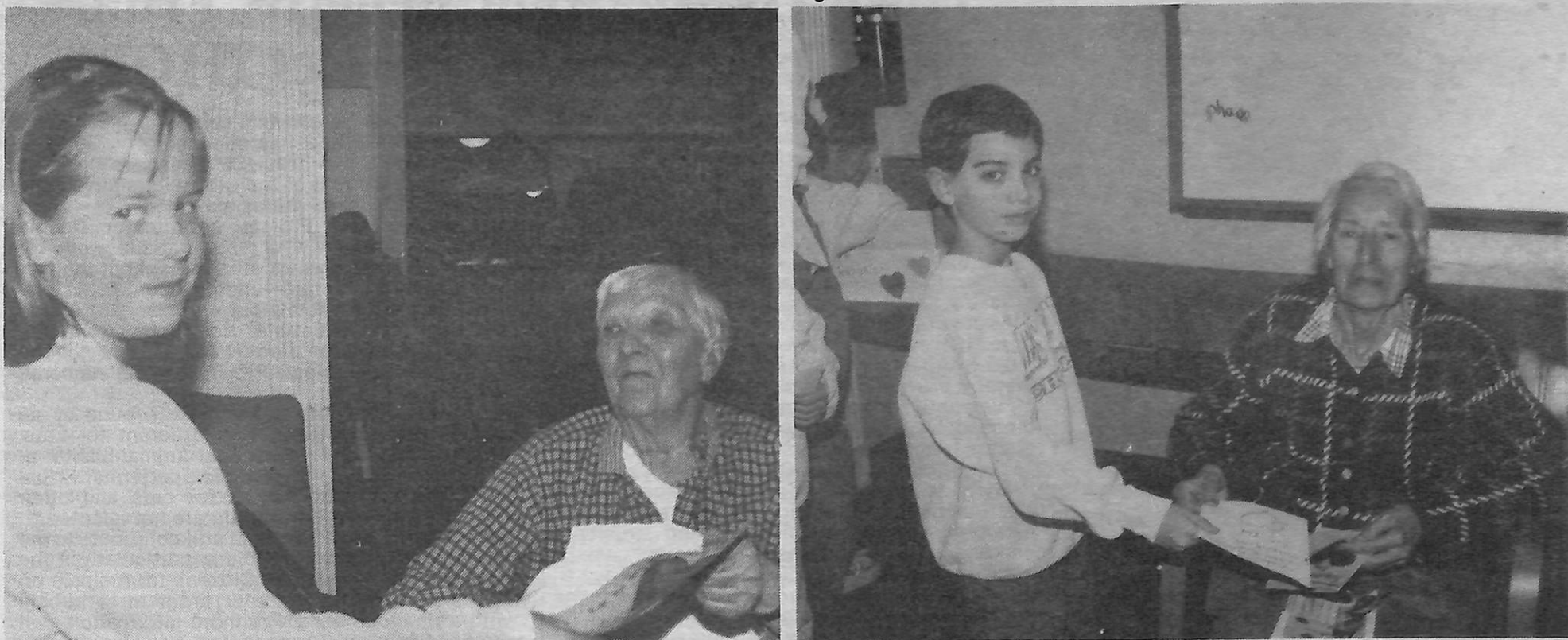
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“Would You Be My Valentine???”



THANKS TO THE JAMES CLARK PTO, youngsters from the school recently completed a “Valentines for Seniors” project and visited the residents of Country Estates Nursing Home in Agawam. IN LEFT PHOTO: Clark student Denise Gates presents a Valentine's Day card to Anna Van Valkenburg. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Eunice Ravosa receives a card from Alex Koulgeorge. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

Agawam Junior Women's Club To Hold 26th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair On Sat., June 3rd

The Agawam Junior Women's Club 26th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair promises to be better than ever before with a wonderful selection of artisans and crafters from near and far.

The fair is scheduled for Saturday, June 3rd, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Featured will be a wide variety of items. Come see the selection of high-quality crafts!

The fair will be held on the grounds of the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street (Route 159) in Agawam. The show will be juried and features approximately 70-80 exhibitors.

Admission is free and all proceeds benefit the Agawam Junior Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

A raffle of items donated by crafters will be held in conjunction with the fair. Winners need not be present to win. Tours of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House will be available. A Youth Art Exhibit will be on display inside the Leonard House as well.

Anyone interested in obtaining an application should call Paula McCauley at (413) 786-0511, or write to Agawam Junior Women's Club, Craft Fair, P.O. Box 332, Agawam, MA 01001.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Massachusetts.

Agawam Senior Ctr. To Sponsor Apr. Trip To Washington, DC

The Agawam Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to Washington, DC from Saturday, April 15th to Tuesday, April 18th.

Cost is \$403 and includes stay at the Governor Inn in Virginia (with indoor pool), a visit to Capitol Hill, the FDR Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Arlington Cemetery, Ford's Theater, and the Smithsonian Museum.

For more information, call 786-0400, ext. 242.

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LEAH MARIE BARTHOLOMEW

The Bartholomews Announce Birth Of Daughter, Leah Marie

Southwick: Mark and Rebecca Bartholomew of Southwick would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Leah Marie, born December 22, 1999 at 10:30 a.m. She weighed seven pounds, seven ounces.

Leah is the granddaughter of Mr. & Mrs. Roger Roy, Mr. & Mrs. Scott Ryer of Chicopee, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bartholomew of Enfield, CT, and Mr. & Mrs. Paul Lussier of Agawam.

Army Pvt. Jessica H. Tudryn Arrives For Basic Military Training

Army Pvt. Jessica H. Tudryn has arrived at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Missouri, to complete basic military training.

During the eight weeks of training, the trainee will receive instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

Tudryn is the daughter of Paula A. and step-daughter of Karl J. Bernier of 166 Walnut St., Agawam.

In 1999, she graduated from Agawam High School.

Town Of Agawam Benefits From The Homeless Cat Project (HCP)

The mission of the Homeless Cat Project (HCP), a local, all-volunteer organization, is to reduce the number of stray, feral, and abandoned cats through the establishment of managed colonies of neutered and spayed felines. Because spring is the time when most litters of kittens are born, it is critical to spay and neuter cats now.

As the presence of free-roaming cats is a source of concern to many residents and public officials, the Homeless Cat Project provides a vital community service. Agawam has benefitted from HCP's efforts. Eleven cats at three different sites in Agawam have been spayed or neutered, thereby preventing the births of literally millions of unwanted kittens. Another site is being addressed by HCP volunteers and three more requests from Agawam residents are pending.

Untold Numbers Of Homeless Cats

There are untold numbers of homeless cats, too often victims of starvation, exposure to weather extremes, accidents, disease, and cruelty by humans. The Homeless Cat Project can be notified of groups, or colonies, of cats. They will then assess each site and ensure that a human caretaker will continue to feed the cats daily, provide shelter, and monitor the animals for injuries or suspected illnesses.

Members of the HCP's Cat Rescue Team humanely trap each cat, have the cat inoculated, and spayed or neutered by a cooperating veterinarian and allow the cat to recuperate. The animal is kept in a carrier cage and fed. Males are faster to recover, so females are kept a few days longer. When well, these cats are then re-released into their own familiar territory.

Since the colonies slowly cease reproduction,

they can stabilize and diminish over time. Since the fall of 1998, HCP has released over 300 adult cats at close to 30 sites. HCP's services allow the cats to live the rest of their lives in relative comfort, with the risk of rabies excluded.

Homeless Cat Project coordinator Debbie LaBruzzo told us, "Our veterinarians work for greatly reduced fees for all services, but the project requires constant funding sources. At present, we are completely out of money and would welcome tax-deductible donations from the public." These donations can be sent to The Homeless Cat Project, P.O. Box 2582, Amherst, MA 01004.

In most towns, dogs are held if found by an animal control officer. It is different for cats. Although the Rowley Memorial Animal Shelter at 171 Union Street, Springfield, performs virtual miracles at finding homes for cats and other animals, many of the animals are not adopted.

Cats who have homes can still contribute to the feline overpopulation problem, particularly if the cat goes out. Concerned Citizens for Animals offers a low-cost spay/neuter program to people with a financial need. For more information, call 413-565-5383.

If you find a homeless animal and can afford it, veterinary care at the earliest opportunity would be good thing. There is a chance the wayfarer had been injured somewhere along the way. Most animal lovers, even those who cannot adopt because of rental rules of other restrictions, really do want to help the homeless cat population. Donations are desperately needed.

For information, call Debra LaBruzzo, Homeless Cat Project coordinator, at 783-4996.

Host Families Sought For "Short Term" Visitors From France

Hosting a guest from another country and sharing your culture is an enriching experience. Here's a chance to be a "short term" host family for just five days.

This can be an exciting and fun opportunity for people who have thought about hosting but cannot commit for longer periods of time.

Starting in March, and then on a monthly basis, there will be a visiting professional from France coming to our area as part of a language training program. The length of stay for each visitor will be five days - likely Monday through Friday.

Staying in a home instead of at a hotel or motel will help the visitor get a better understanding of

the American lifestyle and culture; in addition, there will be the opportunity to interact in the informal family atmosphere.

This guest will be on a very busy schedule and will attend many meetings during the days and evenings. Therefore, working families need not be concerned about any daytime schedule conflicts. Other than providing a room, an informal breakfast, and perhaps two evening meals, the host family will have no other obligations.

A modest stipend will be paid to families who decide to host a visitor.

If you are interested in hosting, please call 786-1899 for more information.

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Got A Hair, Nail, Or Beauty Problem? Send Us A Note, And We Will Answer It In Our Column...

To conclude my report on **hereditary thinning, hair loss, and balding**, I will explore more options available for you.

It was found that **Minoxidil**, a drug being used for hypertension, could stimulate hair growth, and its founder, the Pharmacia & Upjohn Company, now sells the product by the trade name of **Rogaine**. It is the only FDA-approved, non-prescription treatment for slowing hair loss in both men and women.

It is a clinically proven treatment that actually extends the length of the growth cycle of hair, stopping hair loss and regrowing hair in four out of five men and two out of three women with hereditary thinning. It has been available since

1988, and was approved for over-the-counter sales in 1996.

Recently, an extra-strength product has been approved for men only and can generate as much as 45 percent more hair growth than the regular strength. It is a liquid that is rubbed into the scalp twice a day ... as simple as brushing your teeth! You can still color, perm, relax, and style your hair as usual.

There is one drawback; this is a treatment, not a cure, so you must continue use in order to be effective. If application is stopped, all regrowth is lost in about three months. It may take up to six months before you see any results, and the cost can be up to \$350 a year.

The most common side effects are itching and skin irritation of the treated area of the scalp. It should also be noted that this treatment should not be used on babies, children under 18 years-old, pregnant women, or women wanting to become pregnant.

Paul Mitchell Systems now offers Rogaine professional hair regrowth treatment, which we carry in our salon. We have been trained thoroughly with factual and detailed information on hair loss and thinning, and can answer your additional questions in depth.

One last thought on hair loss ... take a positive look in the mirror and see yourself beyond the scalp ... you really are a beautiful person!

Thought for a smile ... Grandma's hot apple pie. Caring about you because ... People are our business!

Mary Ann Zicolella's "Beauty Corner" is a regular feature of The Agawam Advertiser News...

Italian Women's Club To Meet February 21st

The February 21st meeting of the Springfield Italian Women's Club will be held at the Marriott Hotel on Main St. in Springfield. Dinner will be served promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Membership is open to all women of Italian heritage (either born Italian or married to an Italian).

For information on the Italian Women's Club, call 788-4690. For information on the meeting, call 543-0116 or 543-6630.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

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Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, February 21st: Senior Center closed (Presidents' Day).

Tuesday, February 22nd: Hot dogs on rolls, baked beans, cole slaw, tropical fruit.

Wednesday, February 23rd: Baked chicken, cheese baked potatoes, green beans, rye bread, cinnamon streusel.

Thursday, February 24th: Meatball stroganoff on egg noodles, Italian mixed vegetables, whole wheat bread, lemon pudding.

Friday, February 25th: Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, corn muffin, peaches.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.

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- Wednesday — you **buy one, get one free** on 3x5 or 4x6 reprints from the same 35mm or 110mm negative (color, glossy paper only!).
- Friday — bring in a roll of film to be processed (color 35mm, 110mm) and receive **\$1 off 12 exp., \$2 off 24 exp., \$3 off 36 exp.** (not to be combined with any offers or coupons / 1-hr. service only).

Offer Ends March 19th!



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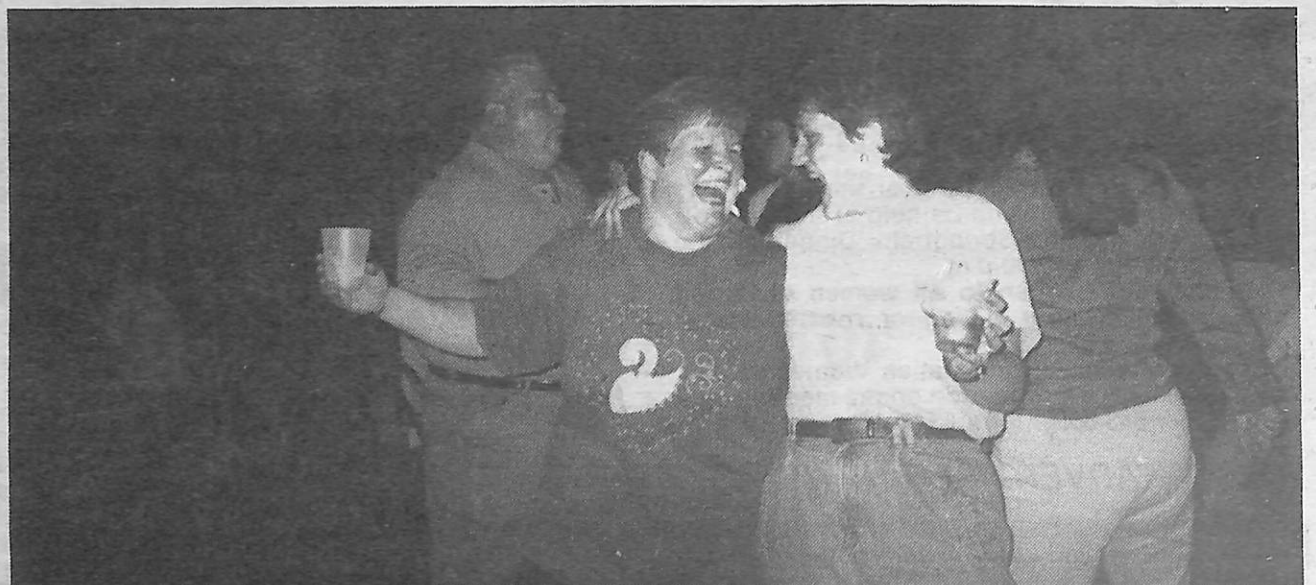
3rd Annual Dance Results In Another Donation...



"IS THIS MICROPHONE ON???:" Melissa Day of Southwick at Linda Comee's February 5th party at the Springfield Turnverein. The three-year total of donations from this now-annual party comes to \$2,900. Comee says, "Many thanks to all who attended, and also to those who donated door prizes. We hope to see you all again next year."



ON SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 5TH, the Springfield Turnverein Club on Garden Street, Feeding Hills, was the site for Linda Comee's third annual "get the hell out of the house" party. This event was first held to simply have fun, and now it has become a fundraiser for various non-profit groups. Past years' donations went to the Shriners Hospital for Children and the Tourette Syndrome Association. The donations from this year's party went to the "Tough Love" Parents Support Group and Mothers Against Drunk Driving. IN TOP PHOTO: "Line dancers" at the Springfield Turnverein. IN PHOTO BELOW: Chet Comee, Linda Comee, and Toni Trehey.



*Advertiser
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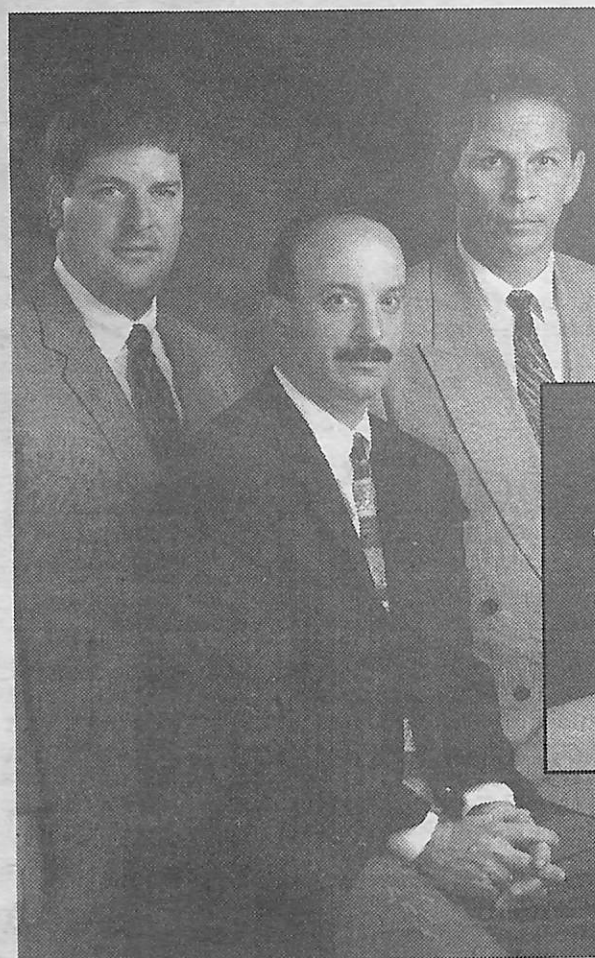
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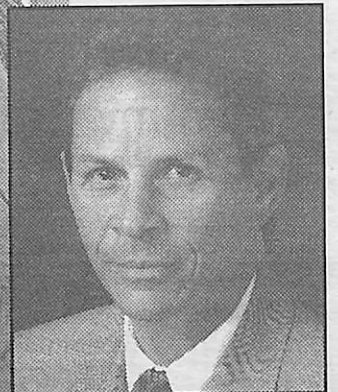
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Meetings Held On The 2nd Tuesday Of
The Month (March Thru November)...

Agawam Garden Club Announces 2000 Calendar

by Peggy Shoemaker
Advertiser News Feature Writer

Despite snow on lawns and cold winds, spring is not far away and the Agawam Garden Club is getting ready for a rambunctious year ahead.

President Barbara Pemberton this week announced the program of meetings, speakers, committees, and trips being planned. Serving with her on the Board of Directors are Teresa Greenwood, vice president; Ann Bradford, secretary; Terry Angotti, treasurer; and Melanie Blackak, publicity.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from March through November at 7:00 p.m., at the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street, Agawam Center, unless otherwise announced.

Programs to follow business meetings this season are:

March 14th, Heather Cupo, owner of "Plant Euphoria" in Cummington, will present a program on "Container Designs."

April 11th, Nancy Wojcicki, radio personality for Station WNNZ, will present an informative question and answer session.

May 9th, Ann Gibson, co-owner of "Annie's," a design garden shop in Amherst, will give a program on "Table Top Fountain Designs."

June 13th, Jack Megis, a naturalist and astronomer and past president of the Springfield Stars Club, will present a program on "Springtime in the Southwest Desert."

July 11th, Brenda Boglisch of Boglisch Nursery will conduct a program at 6:00 p.m. at Boglisch's new location, 180 South West St., Feeding Hills. The program will be on "Selecting and Nurturing Trees and Shrubs."

August 8th will be the annual club picnic at the home of Terry Angotti on Country Road, Agawam.

September 12th, club flower show at the Captain Leonard House, directed by tri-chairpersons Betty James, Barbara Farrington, and Dot Brown.

October 10th, Marjorie Trimble of Wilbraham will give a slide show on "Bulbs from A to Z."

November 14th, Annual club dinner with Barbara Schaedler giving a slide show on "Chelsey and Other Delights of a British Spring."

Trips planned include:

March 10th-12th, bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show and Longwood Gardens.

April 25th, trip to Springfield Technical Community College's nurseries for program by faculty member Barbara Schaedler on "Landscape Design."

June 24th, bus trip to the Bridge of Flowers in Shelburne Falls; lunch at "Countree Living" Restaurant in Erving; a surprise stop; and a visit to a nursery.

Serving on committees for the season will be Eileen Rannenber and Joe Dubiel, Nature; Judith Clini, Literature; Joan Presz and Susan Strycharz, Conservation; and Linda Lewis, Ann Duquette, and Susan Strycharz, Hospitality.

Also, Alice Stein, Friendship; Wesley Bradford, chairman, Telephone, assisted by Rose Wyotte, Ronnie Conlin, Lillian Latimer, Pauline Mortenson, Sonja Norris, Barbara Quimet, Vivien Provost, Barbara Zygarowski, and Helen Kisielowski.

The Garden Club conducts several other activities that include a green's meeting, November 28th, where members make holiday decorations for the Storowton Yuletide Festival on December 2nd and 3rd; a scholarship for an Agawam High School student; and a display in the New England Center Building during The Big E.

Also, they maintain "Alice's Garden" and make holiday decorations for the Captain Charles Leonard House.

Mrs. Pemberton pointed out that guests are welcome to most events for a guest fee of \$2. "One isn't expected to be a gardening expert to participate," she said, "but have an interest in learning, observing, and sharing."

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On Friday Evening, February 25th...

Sounds Of Music Singers To Perform At The Springfield Turnverein

Ritchie and Kathy Mitnick will present the Sounds of Music Singers at the Springfield Turnverein, 176 Garden Street in Feeding Hills, on Friday evening, February 25th, at 7:30 p.m. Pre-concert dining will be available from 5:30 until 7:00 p.m.

Ritchie Mitnick has been performing throughout the area since moving here from New York City in 1979. He is known for his warm, rich stylings of the great standards as well as the beautiful show tunes that he loves so much. Kathy Mitnick is a well-respected musician and has performed at restaurants and country clubs throughout Western Massachusetts.

The Sounds of Music singing group consists of Anne Provencher, Ethel Lee, Jessie Rivers, Vivian Ziemian, Tony Hartman, Joyce Platt, Frank Newton, John Moriarty, and the M/C for the evening, Rolie Jacobs.

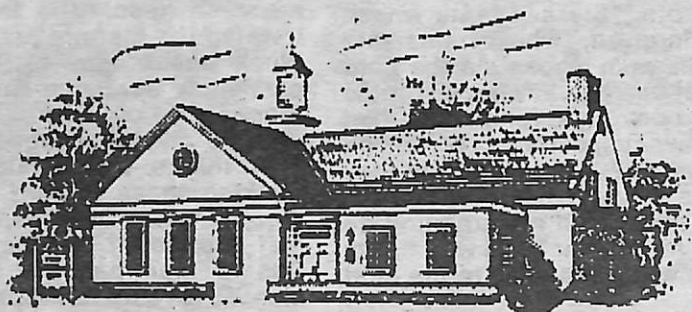
Audiences have enjoyed the summer performances of the group at the "Taste of Westfield" and in the Agawam Summer Concert Series as well as at a series of concerts over the Christmas holidays.

In keeping with the new millennium celebrations, the musical selections for the Feb. 25th concert will feature the standard favorites of the century and the various show tunes for which Ritchie is well-known.

Before the show, the Turnverein will offer a choice of several dinner selections prepared by the excellent catering staff. For a most enjoyable evening, join us for dinner and a concert. Reasonable menu prices are offered for dinner.

Call 786-0924 for table reservations. The admission for the concert is \$5 and tickets can be bought in advance or at the door at the Springfield Turnverein, 786-0924.

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Church News



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the New Life
Christian Church,
Suffield, CT
(413) 789-1377 or
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Forgiveness

Let's face it, everybody makes mistakes. None of us is perfect. All of us have regrets. There, we've said it! It's out in the open. Or is it? While we can allow room for others to admit their mistakes, do we find ourselves wanting to either cover up our own mistakes, or to make excuses for them?

There is a great tragedy in refusing to come to terms with one's own mistakes. Such a person becomes isolated by his or her own sins, insisting they don't exist, while everybody else knows they do. Such people wind up living isolated from others, and in great conflict with themselves and with God.

King David once wrote, "Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit." Like everybody else, King David had sinned. We're not told what specific sin or sins he was referring to in Psalm 32, but we are told they weighed heavily on his mind. "When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer."

Finally, King David confessed his sin to God, and experienced the relief that comes with forgiveness. "Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord' - and You forgave the guilt of my sin."

Relieved of the burden of guilt, King David offered wise counsel, which is just as pertinent today as it was when it was first offered. "Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to You while You may be found. Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the person who trusts in Him."

We are told to confess our sins to God, not in

At First Baptist Church Of Agawam...

The Trading Post To Conduct "Sale Day" From 10 To 5:30 On Wednesday, March 1st

Join your neighbors and your friends and come to the Trading Post's "Sale Day" on Wednesday, March 1st, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Trading Post is located at First Baptist Church of Agawam, 760 Main Street.

On "Sale Day," save 50 percent upstairs at the Trading Post, and save 20 percent downstairs. What's more, there will be a \$4 "bag sale" from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

order to somehow *earn* forgiveness, but rather, to *receive* forgiveness. We could not possibly earn forgiveness, nor does God say we should even try. God says, "I have not burdened you with grain offerings, nor wearied you with demands for incense."

God Himself provides forgiveness, because He wants to. "Forget the former things; do not dwell in the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland." No matter how isolated we have allowed ourselves to become by sin, there is a way back! God has provided the way back, motivated by His love for us. God wants us to get past the burden of sin, to live the fullness of life, both here and in the hereafter, that He desires for us.

It may be that some people around us won't forgive us, but God will. How can we be assured that God will forgive us? Because He says so, consistently throughout Scripture. Forgiveness has always been one of the great promises of God, right from the beginning.

Moreover, Jesus demonstrated God's willingness to forgive sins, as well as His own mission to implement God's forgiveness. On one occasion, as Jesus was preaching, a paralyzed man was brought to Him to be healed. **Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."** Some of those who observed Jesus say this were infuriated and challenged Jesus' authority to say such things. Jesus said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? Which is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Take up your mat and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins..." He said to the paralytic, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone.

There is yet another promise of God's which comes along with His forgiveness. We all know people who refuse to forget our mistakes, who serve as self-appointed reminders of the things we've done wrong. God does not count Himself among them. Believe it or not, God says He will not only forgive our sins if we confess them, He will forget them as well! "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, for My own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

"Sale Day" will feature fantastic buys on apparel for misses, juniors, and men; stylish stouts; children's clothing and baby articles; coats, jackets, jerseys, sweaters, and blouses; jeans, slacks, and skirts; shoes, boots, and skates; household items and knickknacks.

(A reminder: the Trading Post will not be accepting any incoming items on "Sale Day.")

We hope to see you there!

News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Our Sunday morning service of worship begins at 10:00 a.m., and will this week include the Sacrament of Baptism.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon is entitled "What We Believe — Then and Now (Or Now and Then)." The Lector will be Connie Haynes.

The Bible reading will be Mark 2:1-12. Ushers will be Bill and Kathy Rose. Andy Kretschmar and Rich Rozanski will be our Acolytes.

Children, who are invited to attend worship with adults, will be dismissed for Sunday School at a designated time. Nursery care will be provided for the very young.

The Confirmation Class has planned a trip to Sinai Temple in Springfield on Friday, February 18th. Adults are welcome to join them. Anyone wishing to carpool is asked to please meet at the church at 6:45 p.m.

If you choose to go directly to the temple, please plan to be there before the service begins at 7:20 p.m.

We will take a special collection on Blanket Sunday (February 20th) during morning worship. Church World Service asks that we "Blanket the World With Love."

For the small cost of \$5 each, CWS can purchase new blankets to be used world-wide by refugees, homeless, or disaster victims. Donations of clean, used blankets that are still in good shape are also accepted.

The Executive Committee of the Agawam Parish Association will meet at Feeding Hills Congregational Church on Saturday, February 19th, at 8:30 a.m.

All Boards and Committees are asked to please let the office know when your meetings will be scheduled. Used the posted calendar, or leave a note in the office mailbox when you drop off the minutes to your last meeting.

On the calendar:

Friday, February 18th: 6:45 p.m., Confirmands attend service at Sinai Temple; 7:00 p.m., Movie Night.

Saturday, February 19th: 8:30 a.m., Agawam Parish Executive Committee (LBS room).

Sunday, February 20th: 10:00 a.m., Blanket Sunday; 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m., Church of Redemption; 2:00 p.m., Pinewood Derby.

Monday, February 21st: 4:00 p.m., Daisy Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts.

Tuesday, February 22nd: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, February 23rd: 2:45 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, February 24th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:00 p.m., Church of Redemption Bible study.

ADVERTISER NEWS

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"IT IS BY GRACE YOU HAVE
BEEN SAVED, THROUGH FAITH,
AND THIS IS NOT FROM
YOURSELVES, IT IS THE GIFT
FROM GOD, NOT BY WORKS,
SO THAT NO ONE CAN BOAST."

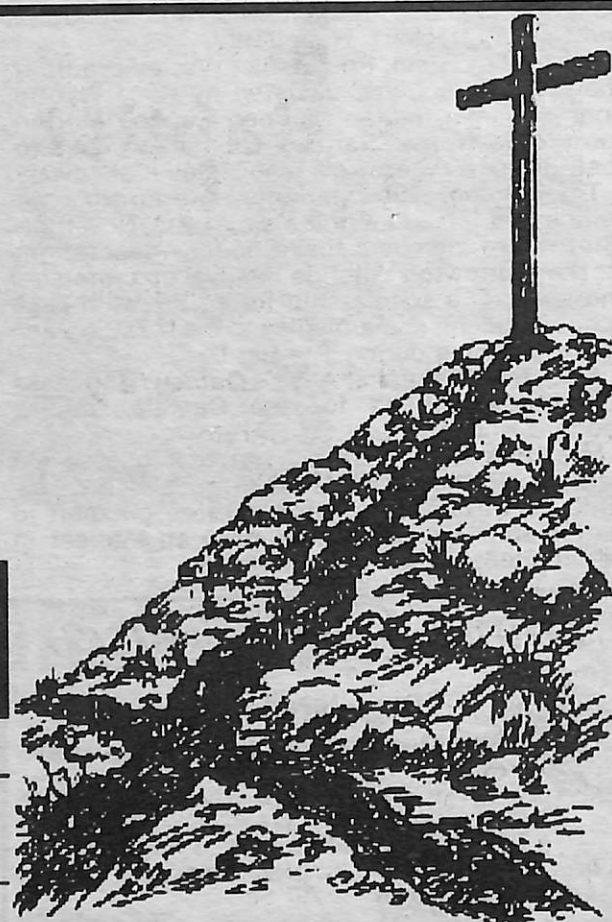
- EPHESIANS 2:8-9

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Episcopal Church

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Worship Services: Saturday 5 pm & Sunday 8 am & 10 am
Children's Bible Classes & Nursery Care: Saturday 5 pm & Sunday 10 am
The Reverend Len Cowan

"Reconciling and Transforming Lives in Jesus Christ Our Lord"



Church News - continued...

At Agawam Church Of The Bible...

Nine-Week Series On "Essentials For 21st Century Living"

You are invited to join Agawam Church of the Bible over the next nine weeks, from now until Easter, as we teach from the Bible on "Essentials for 21st Century Living."

SERIES OVERVIEW

If you were to ask a biologist, "What are the essentials of life?", he'd answer air, food, water, and light. If you were to ask a pharmacist, "What are the essentials of life?", he'd probably give you a long list of trace minerals and important vitamins that you need. If you were to ask a survivalist, "What are the essentials of life?", he'd say a shotgun, bottled water, and a bunker.

But you are more than just physical life. Life has a spiritual element and life has an emotional element, and there are spiritual and emotional factors that are just as essential to life as air, water, and food ... and you need these to really live. In fact, without these you're not living, you're just existing. You're not thriving, you're just surviving.

We want to look at the essentials of life for a balanced life. We've begun a new millennium, and it is my job as a pastor to prepare people emotionally and spiritually for the 21st century because it's going to be very different in ways that many of us have never even imagined.

We need to get ready for it. So we're beginning a new series on Sunday, February 20th, that I'm calling "Essentials for 21st Century Living." What is it going to take to live in the 21st century?

SERIES OUTLINE

February 20th: "The Five Essentials of Life."

February 27th: "Living by Grace."

March 5th: "You've Got to Get Connected."

March 12th: "How to Connect With People."

March 19th: Guest Speaker (Eric Welch).

March 26th: "Building Your Life on a Solid Foundation."

April 2nd: "Using the Bible to Make Decisions."

April 9th: "How to Invest Your Life."

April 16th: "How to Tell God You Love Him."

ABOUT AGAWAM CHURCH OF THE BIBLE

Agawam Church of the Bible is a non-denominational church committed to teaching biblical truths in a way that is applicable and relevant to life today.

We meet every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Agawam Junior High School Auditorium at 1305 Springfield Street in Feeding Hills. Our dress and program are casual and informal, and all are welcome!

Please call me, Pastor Brad Wright, at 789-2904 for more information.

Best local news ... AAN!!!



Grace Baptist Church

475 Pine Street, Feeding Hills
Pastor Carmen A. Rizzo

"A Place For Your Family"

Schedule Of Services

SUNDAY

9:30 A.M. - Sunday School
10:30 A.M. - Morning Service

Series - "Biblical Portraits"
(Role Models For Today)
6:00 P.M. - Evening Services
Series - "Immortality"

FRIDAY

6:30 - 8:30 P.M. - Awana Clubs Youth Program
Adult Series:

"What It Takes To Make A Marriage Work"

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Weekly Listing Of Parish News And Notes From St. John's Church In Agawam

EXERCISE ROOM

Our Exercise Room will be closed Friday evening, February 18th, and Saturday, February 19th.

The Exercise Room is ordinarily available to all parishioners 18 years of age and older when the Parish Office is open.

FRIENDLY VISITORS

"Friendly Visitors," our new program to visit our parishioners at Heritage Hall, is moving along nicely.

If you wish to be involved, call Annette Reynolds, 786-4977; Marie Demerest, (860) 741-3931; Ray Provost, 786-6483; or Paula Raiche, 789-0244.

SUNDAY TO SUNDAY

We will continue this program weekly here at St. John's for all who would like to deepen their awareness of the Sunday readings ahead of time.

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Friday mornings at St. John's at 9:10 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES

Our Parish Singles Club will meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center.

New members are always welcome. Call Joann, 789-0774, or John, 786-2273.

ST. THOMAS KINDERGARTEN

Families interested in a full-day kindergarten in the fall may register on February 29th (for siblings who are already at St. Thomas) or March 2nd (for all other interested families). Time is 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Children must be five years-old by September 1st. Please bring Social Security number, as well as the birth and baptismal records.

AGAWAM PUBLIC MARKET

We Now Offer Home Deliveries

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Boneless Top Round Steak	\$2.79 Lb.
Boneless Top Round London	
Broil	\$2.79 Lb.
Top Round Cubed Steak	\$2.89 Lb.
Extra Lean Beef Round Stew	
Beef	\$2.69 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins (Cut To Order)	\$4.99 Lb.
Porterhouse Steak	\$4.69 Lb.
T-Bone Steak	\$4.39 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast	\$2.89 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	\$2.99 Lb.
Grade "A" Skinless & Boneless Chicken Breast	\$1.99 Lb.

PRODUCE

Bananas	49¢ Lb.
California Navel Oranges (Dozen)	\$1.69
Red And Green Seedless Grapes	\$1.49 Lb.
Canadian Carrots (5 Lb. Bag)	99¢
All-Purpose Potatoes (10 Lb. Bag)	\$1.39
Fresh Broccoli (Bunch)	99¢

DELI

Land O' Lakes American Cheese	\$3.69 Lb.
Imported Danish Havarti Cheese With Dill	\$3.99 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.69 Lb.
Krakus Imported Ham	\$3.99 Lb.
Russer Kielbasa Loaf	\$2.69 Lb.
Willow Brook Deluxe Turkey Breast	\$2.39 Lb.
Russer Low Salt Ham	\$3.49 Lb.
Citterio Mortadella With Pistachio	\$2.89 Lb.
Fresh Store-Made Broccoli Salad	\$2.99 Lb.

DAIRY & FROZEN

Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19
Hood 2% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.29
Hood Premium Chocolate Milk (Half Gallon)	\$1.99
Grade "A" Jumbo Eggs (Dozen)	99¢

SEAFOOD

Frozen Swordfish Steaks	\$3.99 Lb.
Down East Salad Style Crab Meat (11.3 Oz. Can)	\$3.99

Tuesday & Wednesday Special...

Center Cut Brisket

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\$2.69 Lb.

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Church News - continued...

Calendar From Ag. Congregational

At the Agawam Congregational Church (745 Main Street, Agawam) on Sunday, February 20th, worship will be held at 10:30 a.m. and Church School will take place at 9:00 a.m. (for seventh-through 12th-graders) and during the 10:30 a.m. service (for Crib Room through sixth-graders).

This Sunday will be "Youth Sunday," with young people of the high school group leading worship.

The Rev. Dr. Eric Bascom will preach on the topic, "Prayer and God's Care."

The Midweek Service now meets each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Join us in the Fellowship Room for worship, bible study, and fellowship.

All are welcome to attend.

Men are invited to join the Men's Prayer Time, which meets at 7:45 each Tuesday morning.

We read from the devotional guide "Upper Room" for meditation and discussion, with time for coffee and fellowship.

On Sunday, February 27th, Rev. Bascom will have a Service of Baptism during the Worship Service.

Anyone wishing to make arrangements to have their child baptized at this service may contact Rev. Bascom or the church office at 786-7111.

Mark your calendars today! The Marie & Nick Zucco Scholarship Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, March 12th, at 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Board of Deacons, this dinner is FREE, with donations requested for the Zucco Scholarship Fund.

Graduating seniors and continuing education students of members of the church and the Zucco family are eligible for these scholarships.

For more information concerning any of our events, please call the church office at 786-7111.

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street (in the Crossroads Shoppes), Feeding Hills, or mail them (with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION

An inheritance
incorruptible and
undefiled [is] reserved
in heaven for you.
—1 Peter 1:4

As early as 1995, reservations were being made in fashionable hotels and resorts for celebrating New Year's Eve 1999. According to writer Calvin McDowell in *The New York Times*, the London Savoy had by then been twice overbooked. Although the charge for the evening was \$1,000, the Rainbow Room in New York City had a waiting list. So did the Waldorf-Astoria. Reservations were hard to get.

For many people, the end of the 1900s and the dawning of a new millennium brings with it the hope that life will be different. Yet one doesn't have to be endowed with the gift of prophecy to know that life is destined to continue as it was in the last millennium. For example, we can be

sure that death will continue to be inescapable. We know that no one today will live to see the year 3000.

Because death is inescapable, we must answer this very thought-provoking and personal question: Have you made sure of your heavenly reservations? It's not too late. You need to put your trust in Jesus Christ now for forgiveness and cleansing of your sin. You then will have a guaranteed reservation for that home in glory (Jn. 14:2), and you can be assured that you'll celebrate with the Lord for all eternity. Make your reservation today! —VCG

*There is a place reserved in heaven
For all who have believed;
Eternal life is freely given
When humbly it's received. —Sper*

IT'S NEVER TOO SOON TO PLAN FOR ETERNITY.

On Wednesday, March 1st...

"GriefShare" Seminar At Bethany Assembly Of God

It may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you've experienced the loss of a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you've probably found that there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. That's the reason for GriefShare, a special seminar and support group for people grieving the loss of someone close.

The next GriefShare seminar will take place on Wednesday, March 1st, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 105 at Bethany Assembly of God, 580 Main Street, Agawam.

This non-denominational group is sponsored by people who understand what you are experiencing and features biblical teaching on grief and recovery topics. You are welcome to begin attending the GriefShare group at any point during the 13-week seminar.

You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin. This videotape seminar includes the real-life stories of people who have experienced losses like yours. You'll also have an opportunity to interact with others who have experienced a recent loss, learn about their experiences, and have the opportunity to share your own.

A one-time \$10 fee offers GriefShare seminar participants the opportunity to revisit and view future sessions, which may provide additional reinforcement and encouragement. Scholarships are available.

To register or for more information, call 789-2930 or check out www.bethany-ag.org on the World Wide Web.

**"Church News" is a
regular feature of
The AAN and is just
one more reason
why you turn our
pages every week.**

Opportunities And Activities At First Baptist Church

Sunday morning worship begins at 9:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church, 760 Main Street, Agawam. Child-care is available during worship.

Following worship is a time for coffee and fellowship, and then Sunday School classes for all ages.

Rev. Mercy Gonzalez-Barnes is leading the Adult Class in the study of the Old Testament.

Prayer Time each Wednesday at 7:15 a.m. in our Chapel is an opportunity for sharing joys and concerns or for quiet meditation.

We invite you to this mid-week experience, which can be spiritually strengthening for the day or week ahead.

Our evening Bible Study will be held Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the church in Lockhart Parlor. This class is led by Dorothy Major and Rev. Barnes.

They welcome anyone interested in gaining a better understanding of the teachings of the Bible.

Our Youth Group meets each Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in addition to Sunday mornings for church school classes. The group has a very active program of fun, fellowship, learning, and service to others.

Any youth interested in learning more about this group, should call the church office at 786-7300.

At Agawam Baptist Church...

Be Sure To Check Out The Trading Post's "Surprise Scoop"

Do you have the winter blahs? Looking for a fun adventure? Why not stop in at the Baptist Church Consignment Shop and check out our special Wednesday Surprise Scoop?

We have good used clothing for the whole family, plus small household appliances, dishes, games, puzzles, books, and more.

We are open on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Come in and browse around. We know you'll be surprised.

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Spotlight On Business

From Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes & Gardens...

Pam Savioli Among Outstanding Sales Agents For '99

Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes and Gardens® announced the winners of the firm's top sales awards at a recent breakfast held at Chez Josef in Agawam, MA.

The "Agent of the Year" accolade was presented to Denise DeSellier of the Longmeadow Green office for earning the highest earned commissions in the company for the year 1999. DeSellier also closed the highest sales dollar volume and the most transactions in the company.

Pam Savioli of the company's Feeding Hills office was among the recipients of awards that were presented to the "Top Agents" for an individual office.

The other "Top Agent" honorees are as follows: Shawn Mitchell of the Chicopee office; Denise DeSellier, Longmeadow Green office; Judy Swan, Longmeadow Shops office; Charlie Afonso, Ludlow office; Karen King, Palmer office; Laurie Bongiorno, Sixteen Acres office; Meli Morash, South Hadley office; Roger Trombly, Springfield office; Sue Moore, West Springfield office; Anne O'Donnell, Westfield office; Pam Mitchell, Wilbraham Crane office; and Barbara Foley, Wilbraham Main office.

"President's Club" honors were presented to those agents achieving \$5 million or more in sales volume and/or 40-plus units sold.

Members of the 1999 "President's Club" include Shawn Mitchell, Chicopee office; Denise DeSellier, Carole Kirshberg, Roberta Orenstein, and Suzanne White, Longmeadow Green office; Karen King, Palmer office; Matthew Krach, Sixteen Acres office; Geraldine Marafioti and Roger Trombly, Springfield office; Sue Moore, West Springfield office; Norma Begley and Anne O'Donnell, Westfield; and Peg Coville, Dee Doucette, Barbara Foley, Deborah Rosenthal, and Eileen Thomas, Wilbraham Main office.

Karen Marchetti of the Sixteen Acres office, who completed her first year in the real estate business in 1999, earned the "Rookie of the Year" award.

The Relocation Department presented the "Relocation Specialist of the Year" honors to Lynn Gagne of the Springfield office. This award is presented to the agent who meets strict standards set for relocation referrals, sales conversion, and customer service. In addition, the department presented the Palmer office with the "Relocation Office of the Year" award.

Twenty-one Agents were introduced into the Better Homes and Gardens® Medallion Club Summit for 1999 with sales volume of \$3 million to \$4,999,999, and 104 Agents were introduced into the Better Homes and Gardens® Medallion Club for 1999 with sales volume of \$1 million to \$2,999,999.

Twelve Agents and staff were also recognized for 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service to Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall.

Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes and Gardens®, a GMAC Home Services company, is the largest real estate firm in Western Massachusetts with over 210 sales agents and 13 regional offices servicing Chicopee, Agawam/Feeding Hills, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Palmer, Sixteen Acres, South Hadley, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

The firm participated in over 3,400 sales in 1999, with a sales volume in excess of \$400 million and a market share of 30.97 percent.

Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall is a division of Carlson Real Estate/Better Homes and Gardens®. The Carlson Real Estate/GMAC Home Services New England network has grown to 73 offices and over 1,300 sales agents serving Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and southern New England.

Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Service is now an operating division of GMAC Home Services, with more than 1,400 offices and more than 23,500 licensed sales agent. GMAC Home Services is an indirect subsidiary of General Motors Acceptance Corporation.

GMAC is one of the world's largest financial service companies with business lines in automotive finance, commercial and residential mortgages, insurance, and home services.

Check our classified ads...



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AWARD-WINNING AGENTS from Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes and Gardens®. Standing: Roger Trombly, Judy Swan, Pam Mitchell, Shawn Mitchell, Karen King, Karen Marchetti, Pam Savioli of the Feeding Hills office, Anne O'Donnell, and Laurie Bongiorno. Seated: Sue Moore, Meli Morash, Denise DeSellier, Barbara Foley, and Lynn Gagne.

Pam Savioli

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When a Realtor works with a seller to establish the selling price of a house, a competitive market analysis is written.

On the one hand, there is the desire of the seller to get top dollar. On the other hand, it is imperative that the price be competitive, or the property will not sell.

The following are considerations in setting the

asking price:

- Condition and appearance of the house (including interior, exterior, and landscaping).
- Local market conditions, including demand, current mortgage interest rates, average number of days homes are staying on the market, and long-term market trends.

- Financial history of the house, including the most recent purchase price and assessed value.
- Needs of the seller, including how quickly the house must sell. Is a sale needed to finance the purchase of another home? Can the seller afford to wait for the asking price?

Other factors may include location, access to shopping, schools, churches and recreational facilities, and the selling prices of homes nearby and in similar neighborhoods.

If you are planning to sell your house, please call PAM SAVIOLI at (413) 748-7565.

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Spotlight On Business - continued...



Timely Tips On How To Manage Your Finances

by Sue & Charlie Alvanos
Personal Financial Advisors
American Express
534-3883

Socially Responsible Investing For Women...

Now, more than ever, women are taking an active role in investment decision-making. As this trend has increased, so has the demand for investment choices that demonstrate not only financial soundness, but also a concern for the quality of life. This investment philosophy, known as socially responsible investing (SRI), is becoming increasingly popular with women.

What is SRI? Individuals who adopt an SRI strategy believe their investments should be governed more by social issues than economics. This often means refraining from purchasing stocks of companies that produce products or offer services the investor disapproves of, regardless of the company's profitability and potential future value of its stock. It can also mean investing in companies that promote workplace diversity, actively participate in community volunteer programs, or work to improve the environment.

While there is no standardized criteria for a socially responsible company or investment, socially responsible individuals and SRI mutual fund managers typically choose investments using one or a combination of three strategies: screening, community investing, and shareholder activism.

Screening is the exclusion or inclusion of companies based on company practices. Community investing includes investing in community-based companies or institutions that support development initiatives in local or underprivileged areas; and shareholder activism describes shareholder efforts to submit and vote corporate proxy resolutions as a means to influence company behavior.

Pros and Cons. As with all types of investing, there are tradeoffs. Those who practice SRI may be more able to align their investment choices with their core beliefs than other investors. However, socially responsible investors must balance this benefit with limiting their ability to make financial choices based on diversification

strategies and/or investment return.

It can often be challenging for socially responsible investors to find potential investments that are consistent with their principles and, at the same time, produce solid returns. To make the task easier, there are many SRI mutual funds to select from which combine companies that many socially responsible investors support.

Some particularly discriminating, socially responsible investors may find that it is difficult to invest in SRI mutual funds because not all the companies comprising the fund meet the standards they have set. That's why unless you want to research and select individual stocks, it may be necessary to play a game of give and take when shopping for SRI mutual funds.

Getting started. If you're interested in becoming a socially responsible investor, the first step is to determine your financial goals and consider SRI within the framework of your overall financial plan. Next, identify your most important social concern and determine the companies that fit your investment criteria based on your beliefs. Decide what financial risk and return your investments can accept, and compare this to the potential social return. Finally, select investments that best meet both your financial and social goals.

Building a socially responsible portfolio. To ensure that you are investing according to your ethical standards, research your investment decisions carefully. The Green Culture website (www.greenculture.com) includes books and guides to SRI. The Social Investment Forum (www.socialinvest.org), a non-profit organization that promotes SRI, also provides extensive information that may help you get started.

Many women find that investment clubs are an excellent way to learn about SRI. In fact, according to the National Association of Investors Corporation (NAIC), most investment club members eventually start their own individual portfolios armed with the knowledge gained through their club involvement. If you are interested in joining an investment club, the NAIC website (www.better-investing.org) can give you pointers on how to find a club.

If you think an SRI strategy fits your financial objectives, consider working with a knowledgeable financial advisor to get professional advice about possible investment opportunities. She can help you make sure your current investments fit with screening standards for choosing SRIs and brainstorm with you on options for future investments.

(American Express Financial Advisors Inc. member NASD.)



COMMON SENSE
with
Raymond Rose
The PIONEER Group
(731-6800)

Simplify Your Financial Life...

Many people from our parents' and our grandparents' generation lived by one inviolate rule when it came to finances: if they didn't have the

Raymond Rose's "Common Sense" is a regular feature of The AAN...

cash in hand, they didn't buy it. Considering the fact that debt is one of the leading causes of emotional and psychological stress in our lives, many people would do well to live that way today.

Living simply is not a matter of living cheaply or of feeling deprived. On the contrary, it's an opportunity to get in touch with what is really important to you, and to reach a level of moderation that will create not only a feeling of contentment and security, but also a sense of being in control of your life.

Families must control impulse buying. Always shop with a list. Studies show that when you shop with a detailed list, you'll spend up to 30 percent less than when you walk into a store not having a clue what you plan to buy.

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MORLINE CHARETTE

Morline Charette Joins ERA Classics Real Estate In Westfield

ERA Classics Real Estate, 81 Broad Street in Westfield, is pleased to announce that Morline (a.k.a.) Ming Charette has joined their firm as a REALTOR and marketing specialist.

A resident of Agawam, Charette comes to real estate with experience as a business owner and real estate investor. She will specialize in residential and commercial real estate in the Greater Springfield area.

"We are thrilled that Morline decided to join our team," said Shelley Weber, owner of ERA Classics Real Estate. "Her background demonstrates her drive and determination and these qualities are just what our clients demand of a REALTOR. It is a natural fit for Morline."

ERA Classics Real Estate is located at 81 Broad Street in Westfield and services the Greater Springfield areas as well as the hilltowns. In business for almost 15 years, ERA Classics Real Estate has a proven track record of customer satisfaction. To reach Morline, you can call (413) 562-7681.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —



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Spotlight On Business - continued...**Legal
Memo**

by

Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454

**Your Automobile Insurance**

Automobile insurance is sometimes complex and confusing. There are four (4) parts to Compulsory Insurance, that is, insurance that you must have, and eight (8) parts to Optional Insurance, that is insurance you may choose to purchase.

This article examines one aspect of the various

different types of coverage.

Personal Injury Protection Coverage, commonly known as "PIP" or "No-Fault" Benefits, is compulsory automobile insurance. The benefits are payable no matter who is legally responsible for the accident.

This coverage includes three (3) kinds of benefits:

- 1) The payment of reasonable and necessary medical expenses incurred as a result of an accident;
- 2) The payment of lost wages, if the injured person is out of work, up to 75 percent of his or her weekly gross wage or equivalent for the year ending on the day immediately before the accident;
- 3) Reimbursement to the injured person for reasonable payments made to anyone outside his or her household for necessary services that he or she would have performed without pay for the benefit of the household, had he or she not been

injured.

PIP benefits are paid to or for:

- 1) You, or any other person, if injured while occupying your auto with your consent.
- 2) You, or anyone living in your household, if injured while occupying an auto which does not have Massachusetts Compulsory Insurance or if struck by an auto which does not have Massachusetts Compulsory Insurance.
- 3) Any pedestrian, including you, if injured by your auto in Massachusetts or any Massachusetts resident who, while a pedestrian, is struck by your auto outside of Massachusetts.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

Six Flags New England Announces Auditions For Summer Entertainment

If you ever thought you could be cooler than the caped crusader or wascaler than a wabbit, it's time to dust off your rubber suit and bunny ears.

The new Six Flags New England, located in Agawam, is holding auditions for the 2000 summer season. The world renowned entertainment package features outstanding opportunities for local talent and includes shows such as the Batman Thrill Spectacular and several Looney Tunes music revues.

Six Flags is looking for more than five dozen exceptional local performers to cast in a variety of roles. Positions include male and female singers, dancers, ushers, musicians, actors, mascots, technicians, and stage crew. "With the addition of our new Hollywood soundstage and the Looney

Tunes MovieTown, our cast and crew will be working with some of the most technologically advanced special effects in the world," said Eric Boucher, Entertainment Assistant Manager. "We're looking for the most talented performers and technicians that we can find to bring it all to life."

A series of open-call auditions will be held at the Springfield Marriott, 1500 Main St., Springfield on Saturday, February 19th starting at 11:00 a.m.; UMass Totman Gymnasium, 30 Eastman Lane, Amherst on Monday February 21st starting at 11:00 a.m.; and University of Hartford's Lorenz Hall, 1265 Asylum Ave., West Hartford, CT on Saturday, February 26th, also starting at 11:00

a.m.

All applicants should bring a current resume and head shot (not required). Singers should prepare two selections and also be prepared to dance. Dancers should be prepared to learn a short combination and may be asked to sing.

Actors should prepare an appropriate two-minute comic monologue. Technicians, stunt performers, and musicians may submit a resume and will be contacted to audition and interview at a later date.

Performers must be at least 16 years-old. For more information, call The Six Flags New England Entertainment Department at (413) 786-9300, ext. 3322.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

* * * * *

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For Your Health



IN LEFT PHOTO: Dr. Michael J. Jawitz, whose passion is "teaching wellness." IN RIGHT PHOTO: The familiar sign for Agawam Family Physicians. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

For 20 Years Of Membership...

Dr. Michael J. Jawitz Honored By American Academy Of Family Physicians

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

Agawam's family physician Michael J. Jawitz was honored recently for 20 years of membership in the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). The AAFP is the national medical residents and medical students from across the country.

AAFP was instrumental in establishing the medical specialty of family practice in 1969 and a pioneer in establishing a requirement for its members to earn 150 hours of approved continuing medical education every three years.

"After 20 years I want to change my practice, responding to today's challenges, due to the drastic change in the face of medicine itself. Pharmaceutical companies have been gorging themselves on the pocketbooks of the elderly, managing to create a paranoia about health that can only be treated with the new, expensive medications, many of which are not all they're cracked up to be," says Jawitz.

Teaching wellness has become Dr. Jawitz's passion. His new practice stresses cancer screening, immunizations, and risk management. This means fewer cigarettes, lower weight, more fiber, aspirins, vitamins, walking, and weightlifting. "I want to become more of the Marcus Welby I knew in my high school days - medicine that was pure, clean, and untainted," he noted.

Albert Schweitzer was Jawitz's original hero. He once wanted to go to Africa and be a missionary physician, and his idealism remained alive, even after learning Schweitzer's death. "The fact that doctors earned good livings was secondary to the good they did for others, and the good it would do me to be a good doctor.

"I was fortunate that studies were relatively easy for me. College and medical school, with majors of philosophy and anthropology, gave me a different view of the world," Dr. Jawitz said.

Dr. Jawitz feels he owes a lot to Agawam and its citizens. He has lived in town for 20 years, and his four adopted children all graduated from school in this town. He has treated his patients like family and friends and will be focusing on alternative medicine, acupuncture, and an interest in mind-body medicine in combination with empiric evidence-based medicine of today's science.

Reducing The Size Of His Practice

"I truly hope all my patients will get the care they need and accept greater control over their own health," Dr. Jawitz said. "I am reducing the size of my practice from 11,000 clients to 3,500. I have plans to reduce my own practice by another 1,000 in the next year."

The decision was based on the time required to measure up to his own standards. By withdrawing from multiple HMO's, PPO's (preferred provider),

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EPO's (exclusive provider) and other insurances, the doctor's caseload will become more manageable.

"I withdrew from insurance companies with legal contracts such as Secure Horizons because they do not allow a physician to reduce a caseload," Jawitz explained.

"I want to develop the practice to the standards I've created for myself. To be useful and not a flunky of the drug companies. Above all, the physician should 'do no harm.' I also want to give an honest interpretation of the information. Even research has to be critically evaluated because statistics can be skewed.

"Another way of meeting my own standards of patient care might mean changes in referral patterns. I want to allow more time per office visit when I do see a patient, and I want to see less time in the waiting room. Ideally, tracking of and communicating with patients will improve," he said.

Dr. Jawitz sees conditions like asthma, migraines, high blood pressure, heart palpitations, and even obesity as "reactions to that per-

son's life." There are many ways to control such conditions before prescribing expensive medications.

Dr. Jawitz has an equitable manner with patients and does indeed treat them as his friends. He does not put on airs and never comes on as a "know-it-all." His practice has been in Agawam for 15 years (since May 4, 1984). Family practice residency and five years as an emergency room attending doctor at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield account for his 20 years as a Board Certified member of the AAFP.

When Dr. Jawitz started Agawam Family Physicians, he worked 70 hours a week initially, managing to develop the largest single practice in Massachusetts, serving 7,000 families alone. Today, as he reduces his 11,000 caseload, he has made provisions for those patients he cannot continue to treat.

Dr. Jawitz's partners in Hampden County Physicians Associates, with offices in West Springfield, Springfield, Ludlow, Wilbraham, and East Longmeadow, together with Dr. Chauhan working at the Agawam office, will accept any and all patients affected by this change.

... learning to live outside the lines.

Read more about this in today's *FOR YOUR HEALTH* column.

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Daniel Pender, MA., M.F.T.
Marriage & Family Therapist
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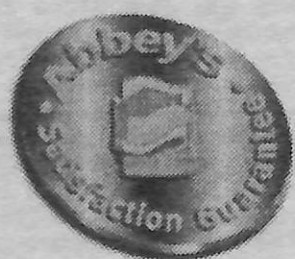
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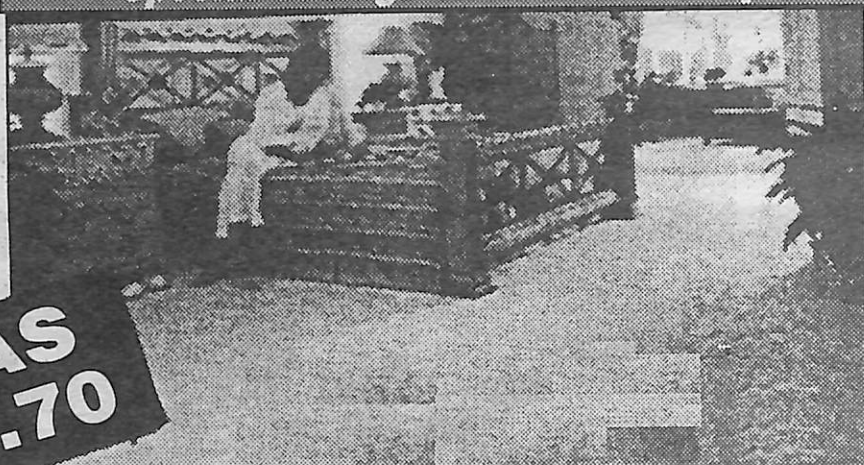
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Exercise Programs & Your Back

Patients under care for lower back pain or neck pain often become concerned about the possibility of the pain returning. Among other things, it seems I'm inevitably asked about exercises that might help.

Undertaking any exercise program with the intention of improving a spine-related condition should first consider some basic concerns.

How serious is the underlying problem? Recovering from an acute low back strain would suggest a certain strategy for strengthening muscles. Attempting to rehabilitate ligaments involved in a more serious sprain or a disc lesion with the same exercises might be injurious rather than helpful.

What is the age of the patient and their general physical condition? As we age, our physiology changes and so do our exercise requirements. While youthful athletes bounce back from injury to handle heavy free weights to improve explosive strength and stamina, middle age or senior individuals should consider lighter weights or a supervised program at a local health club.

Whatever your age or condition, some type of exercise is advised. I once had a wise spinal anatomy instructor that used to say, "What you don't use, you lose." The truth of this statement is seen time and time again in a variety of ways in the human body.

Muscle tone is, of course, the most obvious. Without regular exercise, the muscles reduce in size and weaken. But even bone density (bone strength) begins to disappear with lack of physical exertion. I'm always pleased at the healthier appearance of the skeletal system, as visualized on x-ray, in senior citizens who remain physically active compared to those who don't or are unable.

What a wonderful, natural way to combat osteoporosis. REGULAR EXERCISE! This applies to people of all ages.

When you have a spinal problem, whether the neck, mid-back, or low back is involved, it is wise to keep one thing in mind before you begin an exercise program. Spine problems often become worse with exercise! My job as a chiropractic physician is to improve spinal structure and function. Then exercise becomes beneficial rather than detrimental.

If you shy away from weights and exercise equipment, my advice is to find a place to swim and then do so on a regular basis. You can't beat this activity for overall muscle conditioning, especially those that surround and support your spine.

If symptoms arise following exercise, a chiropractic examination is advised. Call SCHLAFFER CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE, 192 Shoemaker Lane, (413) 789-1369. We care about you!

First Meeting On March 7th...

New Support Group For Caregivers Of Alzheimer's Patients

"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play it." It's a proven fact that people who have solid support systems survive the rigors of caregiving much better than those who don't.

No matter how overwhelmed you feel by caring for your loved one with Alzheimer's disease, there is always hope and help available. Needing to turn to other people is no sign that you've failed or that you're shirking your obligations. Alzheimer's is a complex disease and makes huge demands on a caregiver.

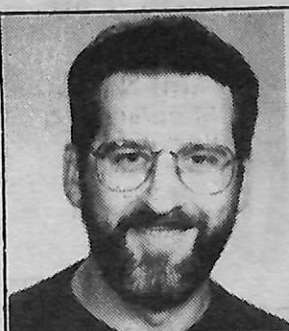
New Support Group For Caregivers

The Atrium at Cardinal Drive now offers a free support group for families and friends faced with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or a similar memory impairment.

Meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of every month with the first one beginning on March 7th at 6:00 p.m.

Included will be a light supper at the facility located at 153 Cardinal Drive in Agawam. Support groups offer a non-threatening environment to share ideas, feelings, and concerns while learning from each other.

For more information and to reserve a space, please call Judy at 413-821-9911.



"Let's Talk About It"

by Dan Pender
Marriage &
Family Therapist
P.O. Box 449
Agawam, MA 01001
(413) 789-4460

Living Outside The Lines

Anyone who really understands what **living outside the lines** means knows that it is both a complex and risky way of living. This is true not only for yourself, but with other relationships as well. The more comfortable way to live, of course, is to simply live inside the lines.

For example, think back to how you colored during your pre-school days. Or perhaps you have children just learning to draw. For many patients it only seems natural to view a drawing that is clearly outside the lines as messy. But maybe there is more to it!

I've brought my children into this world to support and enhance each one of my children's ability to *live into their unique potential*. To me, this often appears very messy and even uncomfortable. This is especially true when my kids bring home artwork from school and I know that if it weren't for the outline of a figure or object, I would have no clue what the painting was that I was viewing.

Nonetheless, I celebrate the work of art and always find room on the refrigerator or cabinet door to showcase their masterpieces. I believe

that adults have much to learn from children's ability to draw (live) outside the lines.

Who creates the lines within which most of us live our life? Our employer, school, church, government, spouse, parents, etc? It is my experience that more often than not, children learn from a very early age that it can be dangerous being inquisitive, creative, and free. They are right!

Children and youth need to have safe limits provided for them. But all too often, well-intentioned adults appear to also "break" a child's spirit.

"You will do it my way! Or else!", "Don't even think of doing it that way!", "If you keep drawing outside the lines you'll get yelled at by your teacher!" and "It's time to stop doing it your way! You have to work harder at fitting in!"

Do any of these comments sound familiar? Have you hear them come out of some authority figure or perhaps even your own or your parent's mouths? How do these commands impact today's child? Today's parent?

What happens if our children are "broken" and forced to live exclusively within the lines? Will adults ever be able to learn to achieve into their own unique potential?

Living outside the lines and really having your self may mean letting the little children come!

"Let's Talk about it" is a regular weekly feature from Dan Pender, MA., M.F.T. Marriage & Family Therapist. Dan maintains a private practice in Agawam, MA. He is a Clinical member of the American Association of Marriage & Family Therapy. He is also a local professional Church educator and can be reached by e-mail (AOL screen name: dpmft449) or P.O. Box 449, Agawam, MA 01001, (413) 789-4460. Please respond with your feedback, relationship questions and topics and "Let Talk about it."

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For Your Health - continued...**Fitness Tips...**

by
Carmela Kirk, R.N.
Fitness Director
Fitness First

Weightlifting Principles...

I need to warn you — just because someone has a great body doesn't mean they are an expert on exercise.

Nicely-shaped muscles have a lot to do with genetics COMBINED WITH exercise and proper nutrition. There are a few basic rules that you should lift by; the rest that you hear should be confirmed by an expert. Ask someone with a degree in this stuff; ask someone who you are sure knows the answers.

First, know what you want to get out of your lifting program. Be specific about your fitness goals. Decide if you want bigger muscles, more definition in your muscles, or more power out of your muscles.

Choose a goal and then choose the right path to get there. Changing the amount of weight and how many repetitions you do will change your results. Decide this with a trainer and stick to it.

Next, be sure you get enough rest between workouts. The actual gains you achieve from your workout actually occur during your recovery time. If you don't give your muscles enough time to develop, they will just get worn out.

A good recovery time is "about" 48 hours. There is no hard rule. If you are lifting less weight because your muscles feel fatigued, it's a good sign you are overdoing it.

Form is key!!! Nothing gets me more frustrated than to see someone lifting tons of weight with horrible form. Form is MORE IMPORTANT than how much weight you lift.

Your back should always be in alignment; joints slightly bent. Only use the muscles you are working, and the exercise should never hurt.

Work bigger muscles to start. The hormone testosterone helps create lean muscle mass. This hormone is produced when your muscles are under a lot of stress. Starting your workout with squats, for example, will boost the testosterone level and help build the mass.

Lastly, don't overdo the protein. Any extra protein simply stresses your kidneys or is deposited in the most unsightly areas as fat. There are good formulas and rules to guide you on how much protein you need. Find out what it is and follow it.

Lifting weights or resistance training is imperative to your exercise program. Exercise smart to achieve the results you desire.

* * * * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.

* * * * *

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by
Dr. Tami Nelson**
Chiropractic
Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Some Interesting Information...

Here is some interesting research information that is out in the news:

1) Research presented by the American Heart Association suggests that drinking three glasses of orange juice a day can lower the ratio of LDL to HDL cholesterol and increase high-density lipoprotein (the good cholesterol). Subjects that drank three glasses of orange juice per day, found that their HDL (good stuff) levels increased by 21 percent, and the LDL/HDL ratio dropped 16 percent. Orange juice consumption also resulted in an increase in folate levels.

2) Presented at a meeting of the American College of Rheumatology, a new study suggests the dietary supplement glucosamine sulfate may slow the progression of osteoarthritis. Patients taking 1,500 mg of glucosamine sulfate per day had no joint space narrowing and had improvement in other symptoms.

3) Following a study conducted at Brown University, researchers are now questioning whether the previously recommended 30 minutes of exercise is adequate for sustaining weight loss. People who had lost an average of 60 pounds and kept the weight off for a full year were studied. What was found was that most of these people exercised between 30 and 60 minutes a day; many walked 10 miles each week, as well as aerobics, weightlifting, or some other activity. The researchers also note that some studies suggest that the exercise need not be done all at once, as several short bouts of activity are as effective for maintaining weight loss as one complete hour each day.

So, drink your OJ, exercise 30 to 60 minutes every day, and take a dietary supplement if need be. Keep your body happy and healthy.

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...

* * *

Noble Hospital's Support Groups, Etc.**SUPPORT GROUPS**

Alcoholics Anonymous: Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield.

Free of charge. All are welcome.

Stroke Support Group: Wednesday, February 23rd, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke and their spouses, caregivers, and other interested persons. Participants are encouraged to suggest topics for future meetings.

Call Barbara Boulanger, M.S.W., L.I.C.S.W., at 568-2811, ext. 5809.

Diabetes: Tuesday, February 29th, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals who have diabetes and their support persons.

For more information, call Karen Ranen, M.S., R.N., C.D.E., at (413) 572-5178.

Bereavement Group: Wednesday, February 23rd, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. In the Bronson Music Room at Noble Hospital.

On the first, second, and third Wednesdays of every month, Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services offers this support group for people who have experienced the death of a loved one within the past year. We invite all Hospice families and anyone in the community to participate.

For more information, please call Kim Cressotti, R.N., at Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services at (413) 562-7049.

Caregivers' Support Group: Wednesday, February 23rd, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. In the Bronson Music Room at Noble Hospital.

On the second and last Wednesdays of each month, Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services offers this group for those who are caring for someone with a life-threatening illness. Hospice families, staff, and community members are invited to participate.

Call Kim Cressotti, R.N., at Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services for more information at (413) 562-7049.

PROGRAMS/COURSES/CLINICS

Smoking Cessation Program - "Forgetting Cigarettes" with Joseph Barako, R.N., Certified Hypnotherapist: Sundays, March 19th and 26th, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. In the Bronson Music Room at Noble Hospital.

This two-part program uses hypnosis to eliminate your desire for smoking and allows you to forget cigarettes forever. The registration fee for this program is \$40 and is paid the evening of the first session.

Seating is limited, and pre-registration is necessary. To pre-register or for more information, call Noble Hospital's HEALTH BEAT at (413) 568-2328.



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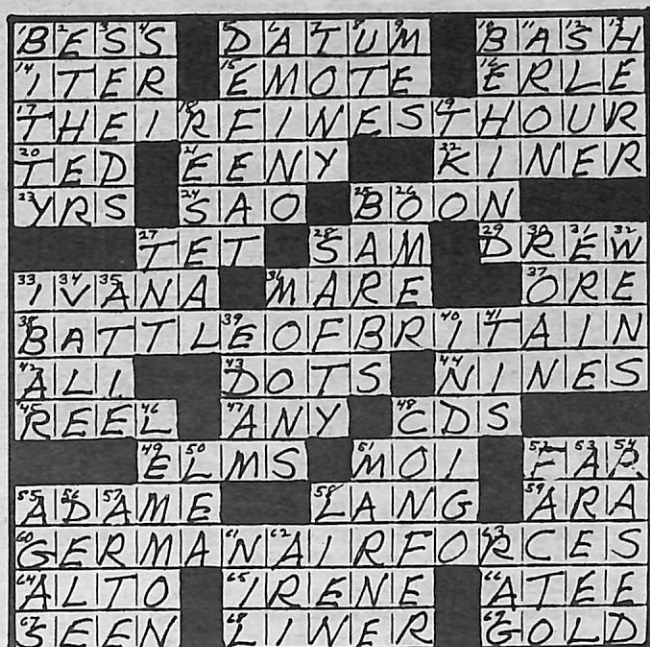
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Arts

Last Week's Solution...



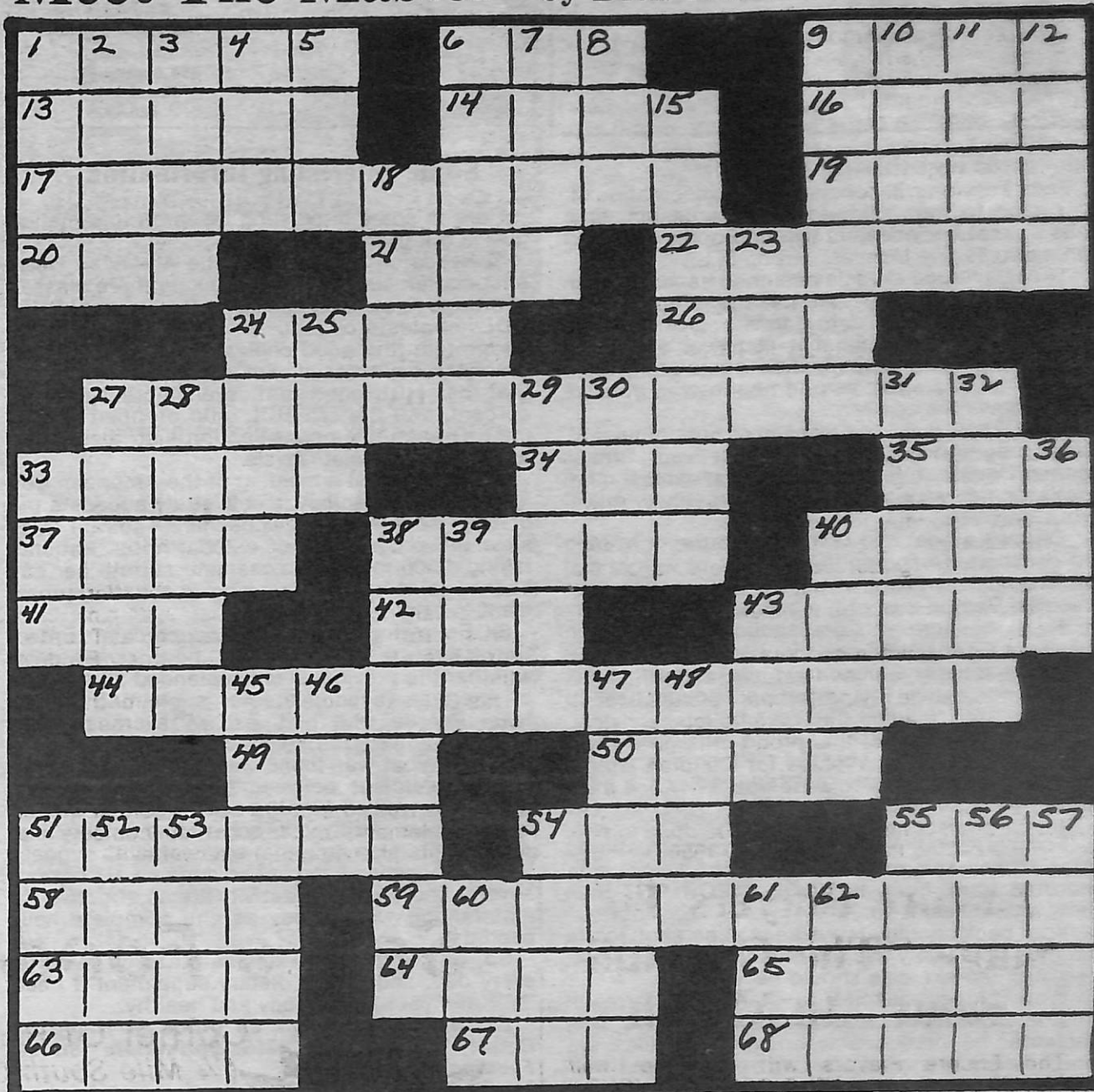
ACROSS

- 1 Grinding tooth
- 6 Take a — view of
- 9 Make over
- 13 — and kicking
- 14 Notable time periods
- 16 She played Jeannie
- 17 Destroys in a way
- 19 Roman loot
- 20 Eden lady
- 21 QB Marino
- 22 UFO fliers
- 24 Practice boxing
- 26 Service charge
- 27 Refuses to testify
- 33 Wall hangings
- 34 Poetical before
- 35 —, skip, and jump
- 37 Come across
- 38 Piano type
- 40 Pants maker
- 41 Forbid showing
- 42 Devour
- 43 West Pointer
- 44 Wins the event
- 49 — King Cole
- 50 — lease
- 51 Eastman product
- 54 One of the maths
- 55 Sales events announcers
- 58 Sheltered side
- 59 Attack
- 63 Election year event
- 64 Actress Moran
- 65 Nolan Ryan once
- 66 Matched pairs
- 67 Morning hours

DOWN

- 1 Chess call
- 2 Royal name in Norway
- 3 Favor
- 4 — Maria
- 5 Thing at law
- 6 Leave
- 7 Persia today
- 8 Disfigure
- 9 Type of pitcher
- 10 Adams of song
- 11 Laura or Bruce
- 12 Singletons
- 15 Added to the group
- 18 Rehan et al
- 23 Hilo adornment
- 24 Old card game
- 25 Footlike structure
- 27 Trick or —
- 28 MSG
- 29 Moor
- 30 Sea eagle
- 31 Vamp Bara
- 32 Mean shelter
- 33 Diplomat for short
- 36 Deep hole
- 38 Carry
- 39 Ship deserter
- 40 Actor Alan
- 43 100 years for short
- 45 Assumes a prayerful position
- 46 Hearing organ
- 47 Drew and Barkin
- 48 — tons
- 51 Head coverings
- 52 Lotion additive

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



- 53 Thaw
- 54 Actor Tamiroff
- 55 Pismires
- 56 Pub missile
- 57 Greek portico
- 60 Macaw
- 61 Seance sound
- 62 Born in the —

Best local
news...

Jeff Tingley Of F. Hills To Have His 1-Act Play Performed At HCC

Holyoke Community College student Jeff Tingley, of Feeding Hills, has written and directed a one-act play, entitled *Hidden in This Picture*, which will be performed at Holyoke Community College on March 2nd-4th, at 8:00 p.m., in the Studio Theater (C Building, Room 111).

Three other student one-act plays will be performed as well.

The one-acts are free and open to the public; donations are encouraged, with proceeds benefiting a local non-profit organization.

For information, please call Holyoke Community College at 552-2528.



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At Agawam Public Library...

Early Childhood STEP Program To Begin On Mar. 2nd

One of the nation's most popular parent education programs, *Early Childhood STEP - Systematic Training for Effective Parenting of Children under Six*, will be offered at the Agawam Public Library. Sessions will begin on Thursday, March 2nd, and will continue for six weeks on Thursday nights from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Each session will consist of the presentation of a topic, to be followed by discussion and refreshments. Presenters will be Bonnie Connell, M.S., and Teresa Urbinati, M.Ed., M.S.W.

Early Childhood STEP is designed especially for parents whose children are newborn through age five. According to the program's authors, its objective is to help parents gain parenting skills, understand children's behavior, and build self-esteem, communication, and healthy family relationships.

Among the topics to be explored during the program's six sessions are:

- how a child's personality, social skills, belief systems, and lifestyle develop as the child grows from baby to toddler to preschooler;
- misbehavior — what it is, and what it is not;
- how to recognize the purpose of a child's misbehavior and deal with it;
- why rewards and punishment don't work — and what does;
- how to encourage cooperation, communication, social skills, and self-esteem; and...
- ways to handle crying, temper tantrums, toilet training, lying, jealousy, and public misbehavior.

The presentation of this program is funded by the Community Partnerships for Children Grant. This program is open to all residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

Registration is limited and may be done in person, or by calling the library at 789-1550.

Encore Players To Stage "The Cocktail Hour" In March

The Encore Players will continue their 1999-2000 season with "THE COCKTAIL HOUR," written by A.E. Gurney. Directing this production for the Encore Players is Waldo Goodermote of East Longmeadow, who is well-known in the Springfield area for his excellent work in comedy and drama.

The show revels in comic and tragic/comedy, as the son, John, seeks his family's permission to publish his play, "THE COCKTAIL HOUR," based on the family's joys, conflicts, and secrets.

The very talented cast includes Brenda Bernard of West Springfield playing Ann, the mother; Christine Ubersax of Easthampton as the daughter, Nina; Peter Doherty of Enfield as the son, John; and Don Thomas of Somers as the father, Bradley. Pauline Coughlan of East Longmeadow is the stage manager and producer for this production.

Performances will be presented in Encore's new home on the auditorium stage at the Olympus Specialty Hospital, 1400 State Street in Springfield (diagonally across from Mass Mutual).

Performances will be held on March 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 24th, 25th, and 26th. Curtain is at 8:00 p.m., except for the Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are available at the door for \$8-\$10, but reservations are recommended. Call (413) 735-1764.

Sponsored By Ag. Cultural Council...

"Plan Your Own Trip" To New York City On May 6th

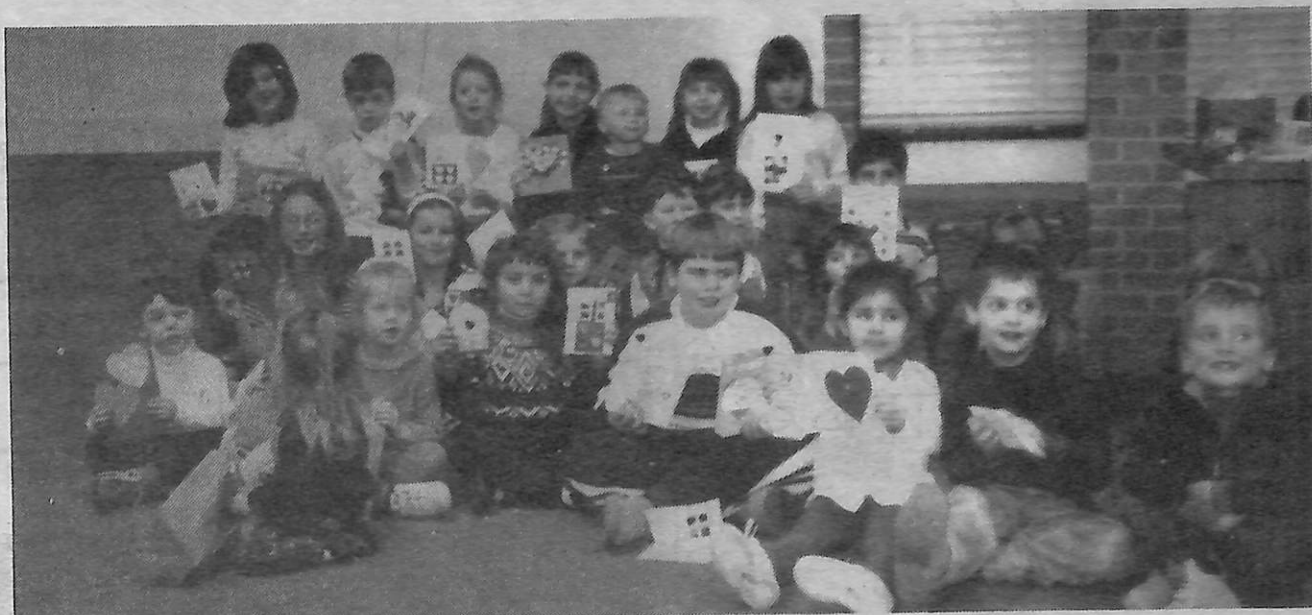
The Agawam Cultural Council is sponsoring a "Plan Your Own Trip" to New York City on May 6th. There are many activities (such as museums, plays, and other cultural events) which are available for people going on the trip.

Several stops will be made along Fifth Avenue, and included in this list are the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rockefeller Center, the Times Square Show Ticket Booth, and the 34th Street and South Street Seaport.

Time of departure is 6:30 a.m., and the return trip will leave New York City at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets may be obtained by sending a check (made out to the "Agawam Cultural Council") and enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Agawam Cultural Council, 933 River Road, Agawam, MA 01001. Cost of the trip will be \$21. For further information, call 786-1859.

"What Should I Put On My Valentine Card?"



ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH, Agawam and Feeding Hills children made their own Valentine's Day cards during a program at the Agawam Public Library. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

STAGE To Present Feb. Vacation Play

STAGE Children's Theatre will present the C.S. Lewis tale, "The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe" on February 25th and 26th at 7:30 p.m., and February 26th and 27th at 2:00 p.m., at The Red Door Theatre, 152 S. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

This C.S. Lewis tale is perhaps one of the best-loved tales in children's literature. It is the story of four young people who exit the back of a wardrobe into a magical land ruled by the White Witch of Evil and Aslan the Lion, protector of all innocents. This adventurous tale is complete with mystical elements, exciting battles, comedy, and the triumphant ending of good over evil.

This tale is being presented by young people who will spend their February school vacation building sets, making posters, helping construct costume pieces, and rehearsing their roles. The camp gives them the opportunity to participate in all aspects of a theatrical production, including four public performances.

Tickets for each of the performances are \$5 per person, and reservations may be made by calling (413) 789-2026. Why not give your child the opportunity to see live theatre at The Red Door Theatre, which was voted "Best Children's Theatre" in the Springfield Valley by the Springfield Valley Reader's Advocate Poll.

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Education



"WHO SAID 'BINGO'???:" In photo above: Nicole Vickers, Brittany LaFletche, and Andrea Walsh. In photo below: Mrs. Sandra Howard, Laura Sapelli, and Laura's mom.

"Books For Bingo Night" Held At James Clark School

The first "Books for Bingo Night" took place on Thursday evening, January 27th, at James Clark School.

This event was sponsored by LIFE (Literacy Is Family Entertainment), a group of faculty members from the school working to organize after-school events that promote families and literacy. This is the event sponsored by the group this school year.

Mrs. Sandra Howard, Ms. Deborah Marini, and Mrs. Cindy Palazzi took a turn calling words for the three bingo games that were played. Children and their parents searched their bingo cards for the matching words, and school staff members served as "checkers" when students shouted "BINGO."

Lucky winners were rewarded with a trip to the Book Table. There, they were guided in selecting a new book as their prize. Great fun was had by all.

The new books were paid for with donations from the James Clark School Student Council. The PTO provided refreshments for everyone.



Area Students Attain Dean's List Standing At UMass Amherst

Dean of Students Jo-Anne Vanin has announced the names of area students who qualified for the Dean's List for the 1999 fall semester at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade point average or better on a four-point scale.

"Providing opportunities for academic growth and achievement is one of the University's highest priorities; I am pleased to recognize those students who earned Dean's List honors," said University Chancellor David K. Scott. "Such outstanding performance is a source of pride and credit to the entire University community."

The following local students were named to the University of Massachusetts Amherst Dean's List for the 1999 fall semester:

*** From Agawam:**

Robert Bousquet, Andrea Cizek, Charles Denison, Thomas Gage, Wendy Hughes, Michele Ingalls, Shaun Kane, Michael Loguidice, Maitri Patel, and Jennifer Stratton.

*** From Feeding Hills:**

Michelle Butler, Joy Clark, Chris Coelho, Jason Flood, Michael Freeman, Steven Freeman, Jason Grimaldi, Adam Lajeunesse, Bryan O'Quinn, Sarah Ryder, Nicholas Solecki, and John Szymczyk.

* * *

Our classified ads will bring you FAST, FAST results...

* * *

For Incoming Kindergarten Students...

Registration Dates Announced By St. Thomas School

For families interested in having their child attend full-day kindergarten at St. Thomas the Apostle School, in the fall of 2000, registration is as follows: Tuesday, February 29th for siblings of children already in school; Wednesday, March 1st for St. Thomas parishioners; Thursday, March 2nd for all other interested families.

Registration takes place from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Women's Club Room of the school and parents **must provide a copy** of the child's social security card, birth and baptismal certificates to be retained by the school.

Children must be five years of age according to the requirement of the city or town in which they reside. The new age requirement for West Springfield residents is that children must be five years of age by September 1, 2000.

Limited openings are available in other grades.

Local Students Named To Dean's List At Univ. Of Hartford

The following local students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of Hartford for the fall 1999 semester:

*** From Agawam -**

Michael Domaingue.

*** From Feeding Hills -**

Eric Fay and Jeffrey Lyman.

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**Southwick
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**Westfield/
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**Wilbraham
596-0100**



From The AHS Guidance Office...

by Judy Cohen
Agawam High School
Guidance Counselor

Reach For The Stars, But The Moon Is Okay

I just heard the expression used the other day and immediately began to consider it because it speaks volumes. How often do we reach for the stars and never seem to be satisfied because what we wish to attain is unreachable?

How many times has a child come into my office, visibly upset because he cannot make something happen? Then, frustration and despair set in, the child feels as if he has hit a stone wall, and he just gives up. It is important for each of us to take stock of ourselves, to have a good handle on ourselves. What do we like to do? What are we capable of doing? What is possible for us to do? Then, we can set our sites on dealing with those things that clearly fall into the above categories.

Just because our brother took calculus does not mean that we should take it. Just because our father became an accountant does not mean that we need to follow that path. As parents, just because our own parents did certain things with and for us does not mean that those things are appropriate or comfortable for us to do with our children.

Each of us is unique; each of us should celebrate that uniqueness, keeping in mind that our goals should be realistic. If the stars are not within our reach, then the moon will be just fine, as long as we do what we set out to do the best of our ability.

If we set our sites too high, we will constantly be disappointed. Rather, we should set them at a level we can reach. Then, when we reach that level, we can rethink our goal and set it a little higher. That's really what I am doing when I work out. Initially, I was able to only walk a certain distance at a certain level that I had set on the treadmill. Soon, after practice, I was able to set that level higher. However, if I had set the level too high for me to begin with, I would not have been able to complete the task I had set out to do. I would have become thoroughly discouraged, and thrown in the towel.

You know, if goals are continuously set too high, then we can never be satisfied. When that happens, we not only become frustrated, but we may also lower our self-esteem. We think we must have a flaw of some sort. Constantly not obtaining our goals brings forth self-doubt, depression, bewilderment, and anger. Instead of experiencing those feelings, we should stop and reexamine our goals.

Now, I don't mean to imply that our goals should be set so low that we are able to reach them without any effort on our part. If that were the case, we would never feel challenged. We would never feel pride in our accomplishments. What I do mean is that we should set goals that we have to strive for, work hard to reach, and make certain that they are realistic.

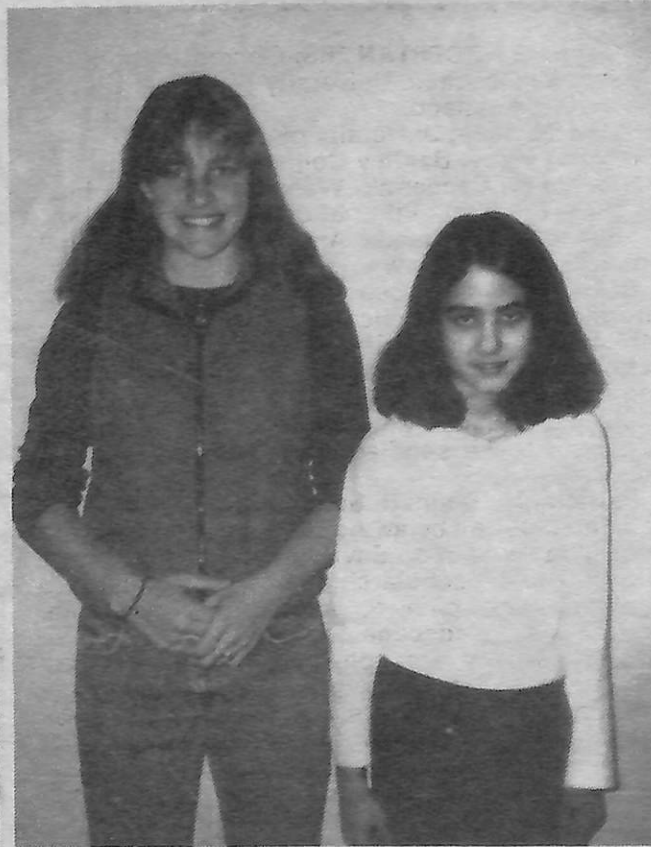
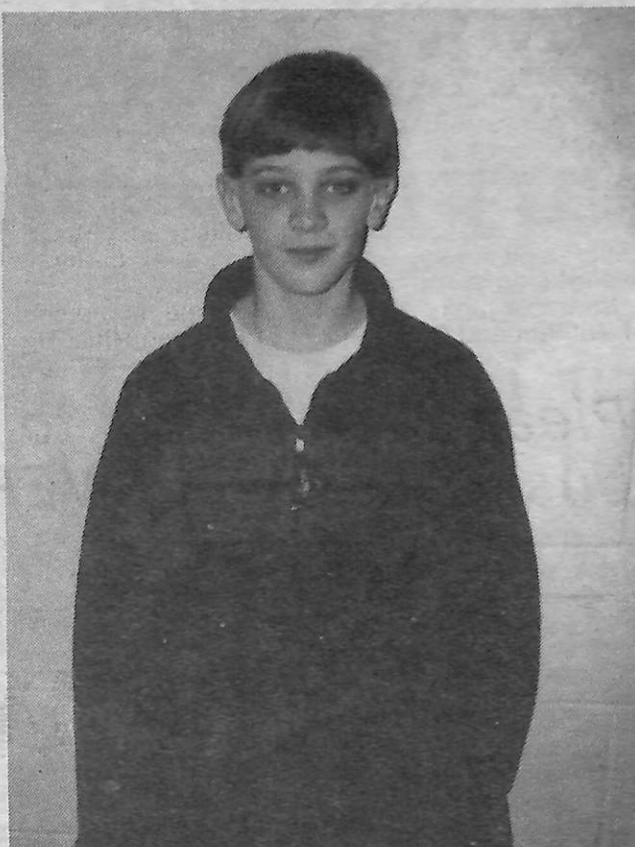
Yes, it's okay to reach for the stars, but if you cannot reach that high, then the moon is okay. Like the stars, the moon will still shine brightly, basking you in its splendor when your desired goal has been achieved.

* * *

All the
hometown
news with
us, each
and every
week...
AAN!!!

* * *

Noted Art Students At The Jr. High



PICTURED ABOVE ARE art students who were recently commended for their efforts at Agawam Junior High School. IN LEFT PHOTO: Seventh-grader Mike Landry. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Eighth-grader Angela Stork and seventh-grader Stephanie Klebes. Advertiser News photos

by Joan Lussier.

On March 1st...

Agawam Jr. Women's Club To Have Booth At Scholarship Fair

The Agawam Junior Women's Club will have a booth at the Scholarship Fair on March 1st at the High School at 7:00 p.m. Club members will be there to hand out applications and answer questions.

The Club Scholarship is open to any Agawam student entering a two-, three-, or four-year college in the current year. The club also gives scholarships to children of eligible, former club members.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Junior Membership.

Local Students On Honor Roll At St. Thomas School

The following local students have been named to the second quarter honor roll at Saint Thomas the Apostle School in West Springfield:

FIRST HONORS: Elizabeth Barker, Danielle Poggi (grade seven); Kaitlyn Chase (grade six).

SECOND HONORS: Timothy Welch (grade seven); Diana Forbes (grade six); Kimberly Murphy (grade five).

THIRD HONORS: Katherine Forbes (grade eight); Jeffrey Lagasse, Adam Rhodes (grade seven); Anthony Ardolino (grade six); Nichole Hess, Bianca Molta (grade five).

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

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Agawam High School Guidance Bulletin

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations!
Kerry McGeoghan: University of Maine, University of Rhode Island.

Brian St. Jean: University of Tennessee.

Crystal Place: Bentley College.

Stephanie Ceccarini: Western New England College, American International College.

Michael Whitehead: American International College, Western New England College.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Holyoke Community College Foundation Scholarships: Several scholarships for students enrolled or planning to enroll in a variety of curricula. Full- or part-time students are eligible to apply for these scholarships. Deadline: April 7, 2000.

Patricia H. Dennett Scholarship: Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to students who are in or plan to be in an Environmental Studies program. These scholarships are available to students who plan to major in horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, conservation, forestry, botany, agronomy, plant pathology, environmental control, city planning, land management, and allied subjects. Deadline: April 5, 2000.

Michael T. Dobiecki Memorial Scholarship: Criteria for this scholarship include scholastic achievement, outside activities, community endeavors, citizenship, financial need, and intention to attend a four-year college. Deadline: April 1, 2000.

Unico Foundation, Inc. Scholarships: Open to students of Italian extraction who plan to attend a four-year college. Students are judged on the basis of scholarship, leadership, and citizenship. Deadline: April 15, 2000.

COLLEGE FAIR FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES: Over 40 New England colleges with specialized programs for students with learning disabilities will be represented. A small presentation on college life will take place at 7:00 p.m. Springfield Central High School, Large Cafeteria, March 14th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. See your counselor for more information.

Area Students Named To Dean's List At Bentley College

Bentley College Undergraduate Dean Charles R. Hadlock has announced the names of area students who were named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the 1999 fall semester.

*** From Agawam:**

Nicole Macey, a freshman marketing major.

*** From Feeding Hills:**

Adam Kimball, a junior finance major, and **Lindsay Mason,** a freshman business communication major.

To be named to the Dean's List, a full-time student must have a grade point average of 3.3 or higher with no course grade below 2.0 during the term.

Bentley College is committed to providing the most advanced business education possible. Students learn in an environment that integrates information technology with a broad business and arts and sciences curriculum, gaining knowledge, interpersonal skills, and experience for careers in a global economy.

Gina Markowski Receives Scholarship Award At Union Col.

Gina Markowski, a Union College Class of 2002 history major, has received a scholarship award at Union College.

Markowski, a resident of 14 Two-if-by Street, Feeding Hills, is a 1998 graduate of Agawam High School.

Markowski received the Rose L. and Philip Hoffer Family Scholarship. This endowed scholarship was created from the gifts of Rose L. Hoffer and Philip Hoffer.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...

Geoffrey Biebel Of Feeding Hills Studying In London, England For Spring 2000 Semester

Geoffrey Biebel of Blacksmith Road, Feeding Hills, is studying at Richmond College, The American International University in London, England, for the spring 2000 semester.

The academic semester in London is made possible through the College Division of AIFS and is offered to academically challenged college juniors and seniors who wish to pursue a culturally enriching study abroad experience.

Biebel, a junior at Stonehill College, is the son of William and Diane Biebel of Feeding Hills. He

is a 1997 graduate of Agawam High School.

Stonehill, a coeducational undergraduate institution, is in Easton, MA, 20 miles south of Boston. Founded in 1948 by the Congregation of Holy Cross, Stonehill continues the rich tradition of a vigorous liberal education based on Catholic values.

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* * * * *

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Proudly Presents Our
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Chez Josef
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Saturday, February 26th
6 P.M. - 1 A.M.

This year's "Inspiration for a Cure Award" recipient is

Bill Murphy, Executive Director,
of The Epilepsy Foundation of
Massachusetts & Rhode Island

Proceeds from this event will benefit
The Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts & Rhode Island
Help us to help others understand!

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Wayne & Sue Hearn 789-1529

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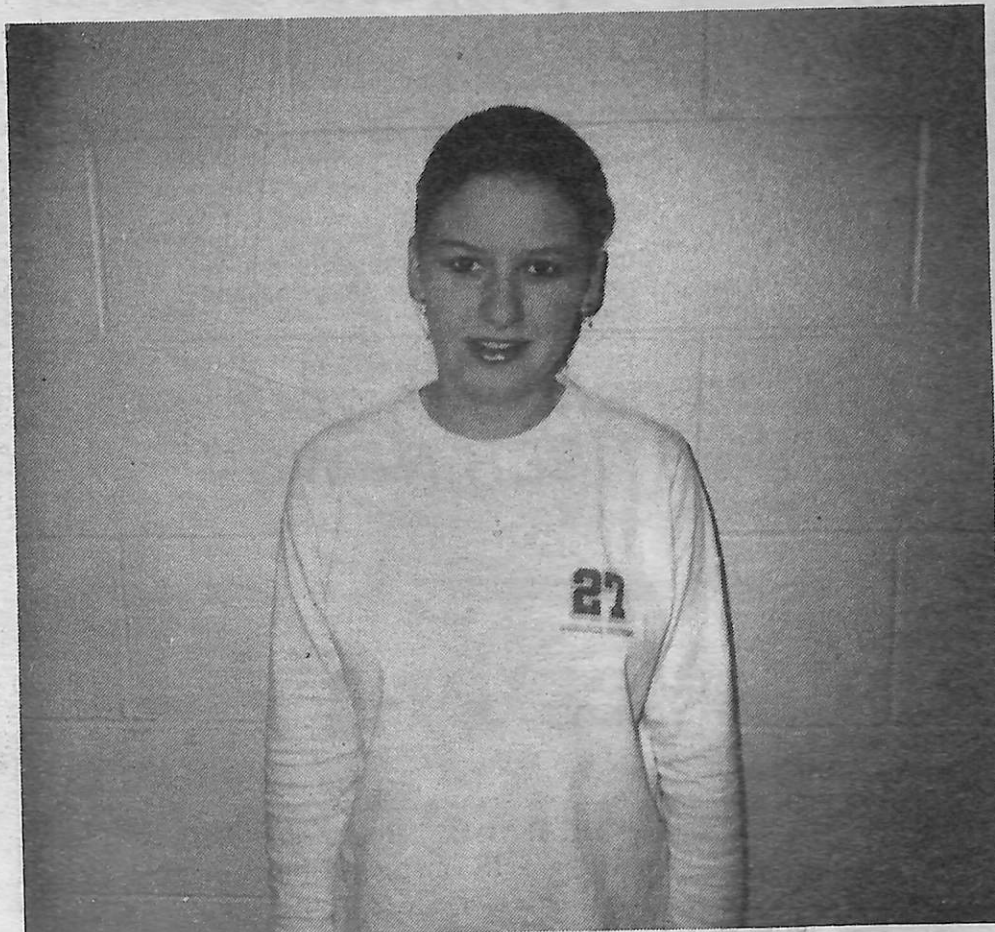
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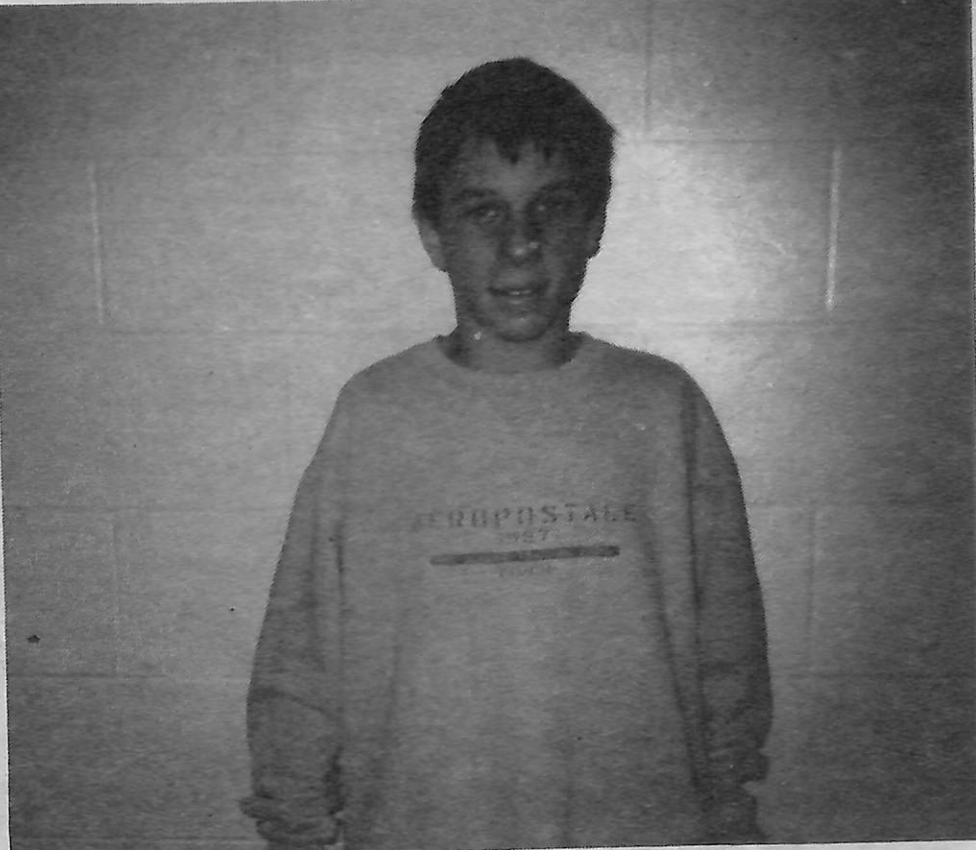
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Tickets: \$30 per person

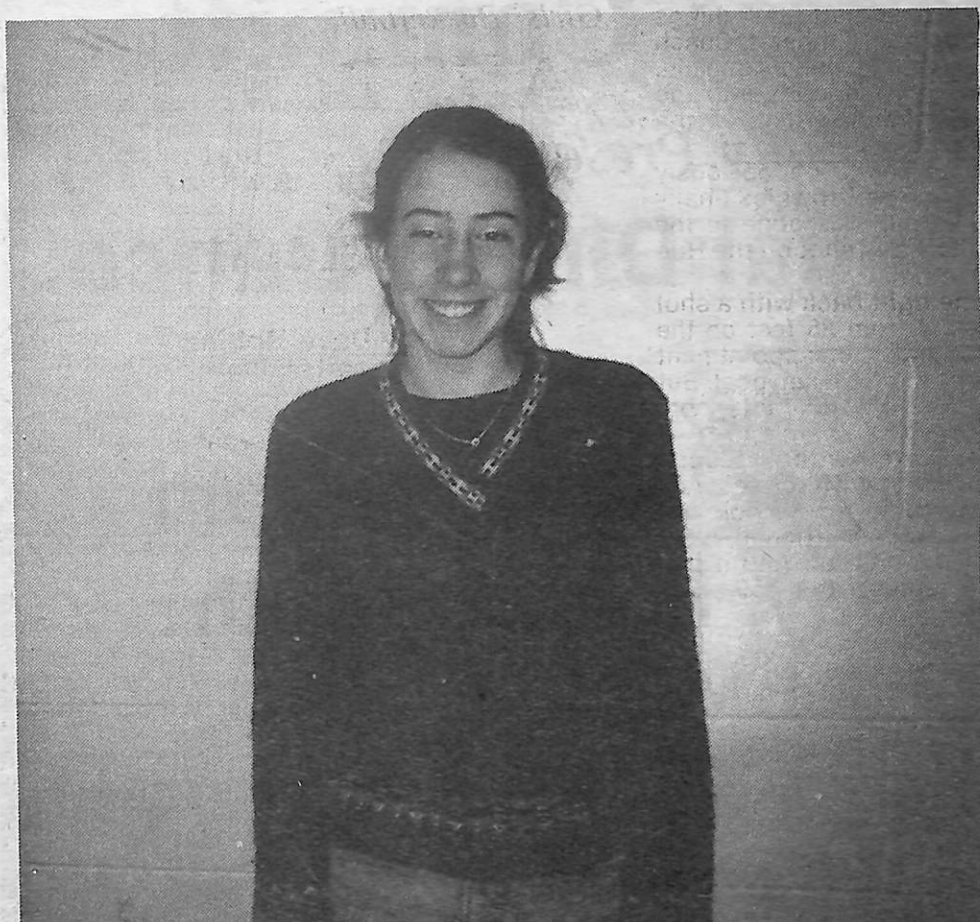
Commended Phys. Ed. Students At The Jr. High



JILLIAN PERRY, an eighth-grade pupil at Agawam Junior High School, was recently recognized as one of the school's "Physical Education Students of the Month." Advertiser News photo by Joan Lussier.



SEVENTH-GRADER KEVIN BIENIA was among those pupils who were recently named as "Physical Education Students of the Month" at Agawam Junior High School. Advertiser News photo by Joan Lussier.



AMY OSGOOD, a seventh-grader at Agawam Junior High School, was recently commended as one of the school's "Physical Education Students of the Month." Advertiser News photo by Joan Lussier.

* * * * *

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Sports

Schoolboy Hockey Versus Amherst...

Brownies Lose A Nailbiter Of A Game To The Hurricanes, 2-1

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

In the "don't look back, because someone might be gaining on you" world of schoolboy Fay Division hockey, every point is as precious as a high seed in the playoffs. Consider this. Three teams have already qualified (Agawam, Chicopee, and Amherst. East Longmeadow, at presstime, is within sniffing distance at 8-5-2, 8-3).

That's why Agawam's 2-1 loss to Amherst Regional (12-3, 8-1) last Thursday, February 10th, was a tough one to get down. It gave the Brownies a 10-6 overall record, and an 8-3 slate in the Fay Division. While 10 wins get you into the post-season, they don't do much to get you a sweet spot in the draw.

A Real Nailbiter

The faithful knew this one would be a nailbiter. Amherst has a solid hockey tradition and, as usual, a stingy defense (2.6 goals against going into the game). Agawam started its first line of Jason Malanson, flanked by Brian Pagella on the left and Mike Konsinski on the right. Adam Sprague and Brian Gilhooly were the defenders. Senior Derek Mercadante, back after a long hiatus because of an injury he suffered last spring in baseball, was in goal.

The Brownies came out of the gate with a vengeance. Malanson got off a screamer on net from the right wing with just 10 seconds gone. Dave Gusek, in early on his shift, then launched another hard drive from 30 feet out in front seconds later which ricocheted off the stick of Hurricane goalie Mike Melby.

Amherst then managed a rush into the Brownie zone. But Agawam came back, with Pagella leading the attack down the right wing. The senior forward let a slapshot go from 20 feet out that Melby stopped. However, his Amherst mates failed to clear the rebound, which came out 10 feet in front of the crease. Kosinski was there to pounce on it and drive the puck under Melby and into the goal with 4:29 gone. Though no one could know it then, the 1-0 Agawam lead would stand up for the rest of the first period and the entire second as well.

There were moments for both clubs before Amherst clawed its way to the win. Pagella was flying for the Brownies, making big hits and generally causing mayhem, which helped when Amherst upped its tempo in the first period. Mercadante made a nifty glove save on a Hurricane laser beam 20 feet out on the left point at the 9:26 mark.

Malanson had a nice length of the ice rush with 5:20 to go. He had the shot and a scoring opportunity after skating behind the Amherst defense, but just couldn't pull the trigger.

Amherst showed some heads-up playmaking with 2:55 go to on a centering pass. The shot, 10 feet out (with possibilities), just went wide to Mercadante stick side. Pagella almost lit the lamp at the 13:52 mark. But his shot from dead center in front hit the left post. That effort came on a nice crossing pass from Kosinski.

A Showcase For Good Hockey

The first period was a showcase for penalty-free, clean, hard-hitting hockey. Agawam had nine shots on goal. Amherst came in with four.

AHS Coach John Cirelli started the line of John Tisdell, flanked by Tony LeClair on the left and Gusek on the right along with defenders Gilhooly and Adam Sprague for the second 15 minutes. Agawam got into trouble early.

Gusek went to the box with 3:15 gone on an interference call. The Brownie penalty killers, Sprague, Malanson, Pagella, and Ben Crum got the call. Despite two big Hurricane shots on goal, they did the job.

With 11 minutes to go and both teams at full strength, Tisdell, Gusek, and LeClair rushed the Amherst goal. LeClair got off a bodacious slap shot, which Melby kicked away. Twenty seconds later, the Hurricanes had a golden opportunity. They attacked, but some good defensive work by Sprague (a block just in front of Mercadante and a

clear on a loose puck in the crease) stopped the Hurricane threat. A little later, Amherst was back in the Agawam zone with another chance. But a good stick save with 8:55 to go by Mercadante frustrated the Hurricane.

Then things started to get chippy. From the 8:34 mark to 2:12 remaining, Amherst would be called for a trip (8:34), an elbow (6:58), a crosscheck (4:57), roughing (2:42), and a hook (2:12). At one point, Agawam was skating on a five-on-three power play. The Hurricanes, displaying outstanding defense, killed every one of those penalties and it may have been here where the game was decided.

At the 1:02 mark, the faithful were horrified to see Hurricane forward Travis Albano (just out of the box after his roughing call and Amherst still down a man) skate for a loose puck dribbling over the Agawam blue line after a clear. All alone, he picked it up, walked in, and scored. The refs knew the rules. He couldn't do that, so the score was disallowed. Agawam had seven shots on goal. The Hurricanes managed four in the second period.

The Zambonie machine chugged onto the ice between the second and third periods and both teams retired to their locker rooms to talk things over. Whatever 22-year veteran Amherst Coach Buzz Bray told his kids in there obviously sunk in. They came out and scored 11 seconds into the final 15 minutes on a melee in front of the Agawam net to tie it at one apiece.

After that, the Hurricanes kept it up, obviously pumped by that quick score. The Brownies finally cleared the puck with two minutes gone in the period. And behind it, got a weak shot on the Hurricane net.

Amherst, however, came right back with a shot of its own - this one a blast from 25 feet on the right wing that looked to have an appointment with the upper left corner of the Agawam goal. But a nice, stretching glove save by Mercadante robbed the shooter.

A charging penalty on Tisdell with 4:15 gone gave Amherst a man advantage. Thirty seconds later, the Hurricanes got called for a hook. So, with a Brownie in one box and a Hurricane in the other, the teams skated four-on-four. And it produced Amherst's second score at the 4:50 mark, putting AHS in a 2-1 hole.

Locals Frustrated

Agawam's frustration was becoming obvious. Tisdell, just out of the box, went back in for a hold at 7:14. Then Mercadante got called for roughing 20 seconds later. Since he was in goal, Jason Callahan served his time. That made it five-on-three, Amherst, with Pagella, Sprague, and Gilhooly out to kill the double penalty, which they did.

Agawam had a chance on an Amherst elbow at 9:48. The Amherst penalty killers managed to get through the 1:30 shorthanded situation without any problems, however.

Agawam had two faceoffs to the left of the Hurricane net in the final minute of play. Amherst managed to clear the puck out of its zone each time.

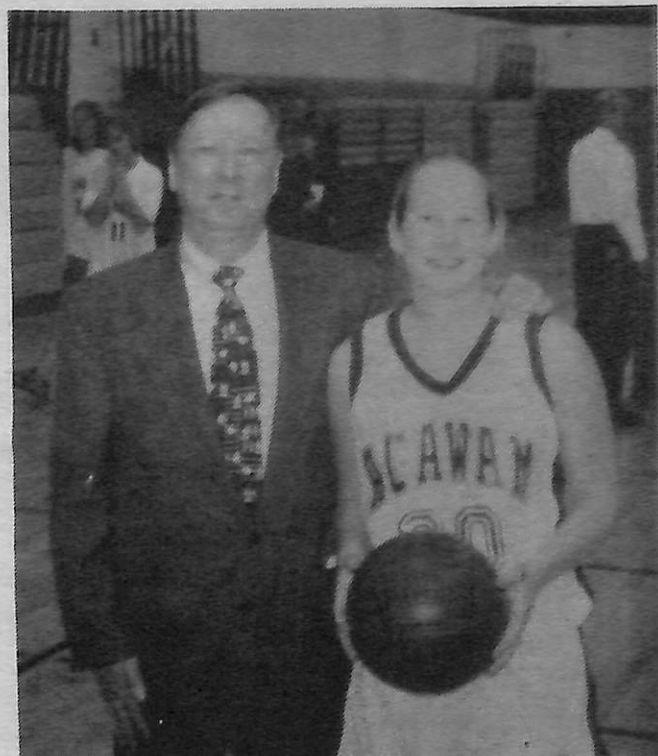
Cirelli pulled Mercadante with 32 seconds to play, giving his club a six-on-five advantage. But they couldn't get their offense in synch soon enough and the buzzer groaned, ending the game.

Agawam had three third-period shots for a game total of 18. Amherst took eight and totaled 16 for the game.

FEBRUARY 15TH GAME VERSUS TACONIC:

On Tuesday, February 15th, at Cyr Arena in Springfield, the Brownies managed to up its record to 11-6 (8-3) with a 9-2 victory over Taconic. Jeremy Malanson tallied three goals (his first hat trick) in this contest, and his brother, Jay, chipped in with three assists.

As of this game, Jay has tied AHS's record for career points with 134.



"HI, DAD!!!": Katie Shannon, a co-captain of the AHS varsity girls' basketball team, with her dad, Gary. Mr. Shannon is a real cheerleader for the Brownies, considering that he's almost a "permanent fixture" at his daughter's games. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Girls' Basketball...

AHS Bows 51-46 On The Road Vs Minnechaug

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' basketball team traveled out and far Tuesday night for a game against undefeated Minnechaug Regional, the defending three-time Western Mass. champs. The Brownies, despite some late second-half heroics, lost, 51-46 to run their record (at presstime) to 10-7, 1-4 in the Valley Wheel. The Falcons are 17-0, 5-0.

Agawam, which lost to the Falcons up at Kibbe Gym at the end of last month, were looking for a huge upset over the Western Mass. champions. But Minnechaug — which is big, rugged, and tough from the backcourt to the frontcourt to their bench — would have none of it.

It must be the water out in Wilbraham, a place you can only get to by traveling dark roads which wind by deserted pheasant farms, fallow fields, and deep, brooding woods. The Falcons are truly a force.

The Brownies, a WMass. force through last year, went up 7-5 on point guard Jill Gendron's three at the 13:50 mark. But it was obvious Minnechaug was going to make just about every Agawam offensive effort a miserable job by employing a fullcourt press from the get-go.

Point guard Christal Murphy hit a deuce on two from the line, then forward Melissa Kowalski drained a trey and the Falcons get two more off an Agawam turnover to go up, 12-7, with 6:20 gone.

But Gendron (who would have four three-pointers in the game) canned number two at the 9:15 mark, making it 12-10, Falcons. Then junior Keegan Clark drained a deuce to tie it at 12.

It was 14-all with 7:45 to go. Agawam was 5-14 from the field. Minnechaug checked in at 5-13. Then the Falcons, trying to post up all game long, started to get production from the premier post-up player in Western Mass. — 6'4" Maureen Leahy (14 points, 5-11 FGS, 4-4 FTS, 5 REBS, 4 OFF) — hit two deuces in the paint, and forward Christina Conway popped a two for a 20-14 Falcon lead with 6:17 left.

Falcons Dominate The Offensive Boards...

Leahy hit two more to bring her club up, 22-14. They were dominating the offensive boards with 13, including seven straight on one offensive thrust with 4:11 left. The Agawam defenders, led by junior center Laura Bucalo, didn't allow any put-backs, but the Falcon aggression was impressive. "We needed to box out more in the first half," Brownie guard Jen Lyman admitted afterward.

SEE GIRLS' BASKETBALL - Page 36...

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street (in the Crossroads Shoppes), Feeding Hills.

Schoolboy Wrestling...

AHS Finishes 4th At WMass. Tournament

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High wrestling team placed fourth in the recently completed Division I Western Mass. Tournament at the packed East Longmeadow High School gym. Their total of 160 points put them behind the top three finishers: defending champion Ludlow (250½), always-tough West Springfield (228), and Minnechaug Regional (172).

However, the wrestling season isn't quite done yet for the Brownies. The State Division I Tournament is up next this Friday and Saturday (February 18th and 19th) at Lowell.

The Brownies will be well-represented: Eric Hogan (112's), Dave Moore (119's or 125's), Luke Cardone (130's), Aaron Gilbert (135's), Kevin Grealis (160's), and Nick Beaudette (171's) will all be there.

At Western Mass., the Brownies had a quality wrestler in all 14 divisions. However, two of their key kids didn't participate. Matt Quirk, the second seed in the 152's, had to bow out with an injured shoulder. Eric Pedersen, seeded fourth in the 189's, had academic problems and, thus, was ineligible. Maybe they wouldn't have won the whole thing with those two involved, but there's a strong chance the Brownies might have moved up a notch.

Agawam wrestled as well as it could, considering it finished second in the A Division at 9-4, 8-1, behind Ludlow (18-2, 9-0).

Junior Bryan Ghedi started it off in the 103's.

Ghedi, unseeded, had a bye in the first round but got pinned in the second round (21 seconds into the second period) by Jim Ceberek of Ludlow. Ghedi went into the consolation bracket and into the semis there with a 2-0 win over Amherst's Bill Shaw.

He would lose in the consolation finals in a close, hard-fought match, 9-7, to Longmeadow sophomore Dan Shapiro. Ghedi would finish fourth in his weight category.

Eric Hogan, seeded second in the 112's, also had a first-round bye. The Brownie junior totally dominated Cathedral's Matt Iwaniski, 21-6, in the second round, gaining a technical fall. He went all the way to the championship finals before losing, 8-2, to Central's Shareef Jacobs, to come in second.

Agawam marquee wrestler, senior Dave Moore, top-seeded in the 119's, pinned Putnam's Edison Colon (1:21) and Minnechaug's John Tomchik (1:55) in the first and second rounds, respectively. He won his class with a 6-0 shutout of West Side's Joe Labelle, a tough customer whom he beat earlier in the year, 6-3, in a meet at West Side.

Moore, All-Western Mass. in two weight classes (103, 112 the past two years), will no doubt grab another one in the 119's.

Freshman Adam Blackak, unseeded in the 125's, had a bye in the first round but was dominated by Westfield's Rick Brazee, 11-0, in a second-round battle. Brazee would go on to win that weight class.

Luke Cardone had the fourth seed in the 130's. He pinned Fran King of Sci-Tech at the 45-second mark of the first period, then took down East Longmeadow's Darren Thomas (2:59) in the second round. A loss in the semis sent him to the consolation bracket, where he finished third with a 7-5 decision over Ludlow's Felipe Barroso.

In Agawam's only Division I loss to Ludlow High on February 2nd, Barroso beat him, 4-0, so it was sweet revenge.

Aaron Gilbert, seeded second in the 135's, pinned Minnechaug's Tony Axtmann (36 seconds) and then out-pointed Putnam's Steve Ramos (11-1). A loss in the semis saw the junior head to the consolation round, where he took third place with a 3-0 decision over West Side junior Nick Topjian.

Unseeded Cory Federico had a bye in the first round, then lost to top-seeded Mark Flynn of West Springfield on a pin at 2:26. Federico went into the consolation round and ended up beating

Longmeadow's Lee Cotton, 6-2, for a third-place finish in his weight class.

Brandon Blackak was the seventh seed in the 145's. He had a first-round bye and went into the consolations by virtue of a 9-2 loss to Minnechaug's Pat Rooney, winner of that weight class. Blackak had a tough time in the consolations and would end up wrestling out.

Junior Mike Hill was the Brownies' hope in the 152's after Quirk was unable to compete. Hill was pinned in the first round (2:39) by Derek Garden of Minnechaug. He lost his consolation-round match by default to Putnam's Jaime Manguel.

Senior Kevin Grealis, a mainstay of Brownie wrestling for three years, had a fourth seed in the 160's. He pinned Longmeadow's Brian Askin (1:00) for a first-round victory and shut out West Side's Bob Pajak, 8-0, in the second. Grealis lost to Central's George Quinlan, 7-5, in the championship finals.

Nick Beaudette, a sixth seed in the 171's, had a first-round bye and a second-round, 7-5 win over West Springfield's Scott Miltmore. The Brownie junior ended up, however, going into the consolation round, where he met Miltmore again. This time, the Terrier won, 4-1, sending Beaudette to a fourth-place finish.

Brian Pedersen, a sophomore and Eric's brother, went in the 189's. He had a first-round bye but lost to Sci-Tech's Courtney Ferguson Lee, 8-6. That sent Pedersen into the consolation round, where he eventually wrestled out.

John Silva, unseeded, beat Longmeadow's Chris Nuzzo, 17-9, in the first round, then went into the consolation bracket after being pinned by Ludlow's Dave Perham.

Jon Archambault was Agawam's hope in the heavies. Brian Small, out of West Side, pinned him at 5:28. Archambault went into the consolation battle and ended up finishing fifth after a 5-3 final loss to Longmeadow's Chris Basile.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL - from Page 35...

Leahy, who would have eight first-half points, hit a mortar shot from the top of the key to put her club up, 24-14, with 3:35 left. Minnechaug would not give up its press. Kowalski canned another three to make it 27-14. A Falcon two by Marybeth Maziarz off a nice feed from Conway saw Minnechaug go up, 29-16, as time ran out. A Brownie attack and a deuce on a pop in the lane by junior Liz Stieg had it 29-18, Falcons, at the half.

Agawam will never be accused of circling the drain. "We could have won this game," Lyman said. Agawam came out in a press of its own at the start of the second half, led by seniors Sheri Benton, Kate Shannon, and Gendron. Minnechaug had chalked up three turnovers with less than a minute gone. Two quick Agawam scores (a Gendron deuce, and 2-2 from the line by Bucalo after she drove and got leveled by Leahy) saw it at 29-22, Minnechaug.

However, Leahy, still prowling the paint, hit a two and Kowalski dropped down her third three just after that to put the Falcons up, 34-22, with 4:15 off the clock.

Benton drained a deuce to bring the Brownies up, 34-24. Then Murphy hit two from the line and Kowalski dropped a deuce. Leahy, using every inch of her 6'4" frame (despite being banged by Bucalo), went for two more and it was 42-25, Falcons.

Brownies Would Not Go Belly Up...

But Agawam was not going to go belly up. Freshman forward Vicky Taylor and junior forward Sara Lottermoser hit a deuce apiece to bring it down to 42-29. At that point, Agawam was 4-13 from the field. Minnechaug was 4-11. The difference was the fact that the Falcons were 6-6 from the stripe.

Leahy, who probably doesn't get enough credit for her ability to pass the ball, was still posting up. She gets the rock at the top of the key or wherever she might be and, in a half-second, sees the cutter. Case in point: she hit Kowalski off the left baseline for two to make it 48-31, Minnechaug. If you blinked, you missed it; the ball kisses her fingers and it's gone.

Agawam closed the gap to 50-43 on a Stieg three and a Gendron three. Gendron was fouled on the shot, went to the line, and hit the free throw for a four-point play. But it was essentially over. Playing Minnechaug, at least now, is like being a salmon swimming up the raging river. You jump one rapid and there are a dozen left to beat.

"We need a couple more wins for maybe a fourth or fifth seed (in the tournament)," Jen Lyman said.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUALS: Gendron — 15 points,

4-13 FGS, 3-3 FTS, 4-6 3 points, 2 REBS, 1 OFF; Clark — 2 points, 1-2 FGS, 1 OFF REB; Lyman — 2 points, 1-5 FGS, 4 REBS, 2 OFF; Lottermoser — 2 points, 1-1 FGS; Shannon — 2 points, 1-2 FGS, 1 OFF REB; Benton — 6 points, 3-8 FGS, 1 REB; Stieg — 5 points, 2-9 FGS, 1-5 3 points, 1 OFF REB; Taylor — 6 points, 2-8 FGS, 2-2, 2 REBS, 1 OFF; Bucalo — 2 points, 0-1 FGS, 2-2 FTS, 2 OFF REBS.

AGAWAM TEAM: 16-52 FGS (30%), 8-9 FTS (88%), 3 points, 6-12 (50%); rebounds — 15, 12 off; turnovers — 8; points off turnovers — 2.

MINNECHAUG TEAM: 17-45 (37%), 14-17 (82%), 3 points, 3-5; rebounds — 35, 21 off; turnovers — 14; points off turnovers — 4.

JV NOTES: The Brownie JV's lost to the Falcons, 53-26. Kristin Strole was the leading scorer with eight.

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Agawam

Boys' Basketball Vs Westfield...

AHS Still Winless, Courtesy Of 62-48 Loss To Bombersby Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

At presstime, the Agawam High boys' basketball team is still winless at 0-16 and 0-6 in the league.

Their latest loss came at Kibbe Gym Friday night, February 4th. Westfield did the deed, 62-48.

However, there were two totally different games in this one. The Brownies of the present, trying hard but coming up a little short, showed up in the first half and took a 35-17 deficit into the locker room at the buzzer. The Brownies of the future came out for the second 16 minutes. They outplayed the bigger and bulkier Bombers and outscored them, 31-27, but out-hustling them all over the court and just plain displaying to the frustrated faithful that the future is, indeed, bright.

"We took it to them in the second half. We boxed out and played unselfish basketball. We ran the floor and did what we know we can do," Coach Brian Alves smiled.

Westfield wasn't taking its foot off the throttle after the intermission. The Brownies simply had its jammed right through the floorboard.

Westfield, which featured 6'8" junior forward/center Manuel Diaz (16 points) and freshman center Jamal Brown (who has to be 6'5" and 260 pounds), also featured a bunch of quick-hand kids on defense. They showed it all off from the get-go, pressing almost every time Agawam had the ball while banging under the boards with those trees of theirs.

A Diaz dunk started off the scoring. Then Westfield went into its press, sometimes half-court, sometimes full-court. The Brownie guards were having trouble getting the ball up the floor. They were down 10-2 with four minutes gone.

The Bombers' man-to-man, working off their press, had not allowed Agawam a good look at a field goal for over six minutes. Agawam's four points in a 16-4 game had come at the line on 4-4 shooting by Joe Stellato (6-7 FTS in the first half). The senior guard had figured out early that if they don't give it to your outside, you go to the hole and get your points in the paint.

First Field Goal With 7 Minutes Gone

Agawam got its first field goal with seven minutes gone on a Sean Mercadante three, mak-

ing it 16-7, visitors. At that point, Agawam was shooting 1-5 and Westfield was 8-13 from the field.

The Bombers kept up the pressure with their press and dominated the glass. With 7:11 to go, they had nine rebounds, three on offense, to Agawam's one defensive snatch.

An Adam Ellsworth deuce, followed by a Bomber three and a Brian Forsman trey over a Westfield zone, saw it 30-13 with 2:35 left in the half. With 1:15 to play, Westfield led, 32-15. A hoop and a foul shot off of it saw the Bombers up 35-15 as time ran down.

Junior forward Lou Conte, who'd been putting the body on Diaz in the paint, went up against the big guy and got hacked with 17 seconds left. Conte, who would have 14 points on the evening, including some dead-eye work from the stripe (8-10), canned both ends of the free throws. It was 37-17 at the break.

To no one's surprise, Westfield came out pressing to start the second half before dropping into its man-to-man. Conte went to the hole with a minute gone, laid it in, and got fouled. He drained the free throw, bringing the Brownies to within 15, 35-20.

Conte, who would have 12 second-half points, continued to labor in the lane. He drove for two more and got mugged with 3:20 off the clock. His free throw made it 40-24, Brownies.

Westfield wasn't quite ready for the team it was now facing. An A.J. Martucci drive for the deuce and another two from outside by the junior saw it 49-32 with 7:58 to go.

Westfield was still pressing. The difference this time was the fact that Agawam was breaking it. And when the Brownies faced up to the Bomber chameleon defense (zone-to-man/man-to-zone), they passed well no matter which one they faced.

Brownies Come To Within 11

With Agawam down 51-37, Mercadante drained a three to bring the Brownies to within 11 at 51-40. A Bomber three down the other end could have broken the homefolk's hearts. It was 54-40 at the 5:12 mark. At that point, Agawam was 6-14 and Westfield was 8-14 from the field.

One important factor was working for Agawam

at this point. In the first half, they had seven turnovers, allowing nine points off of them. They had only one with 4:24 left. The kids were taking care of the ball.

Ellsworth canned a deuce with three minutes and change to play, then popped another from the right baseline on Agawam's next possession and it was 56-44 with three minutes to go. Mercadante dropped a three-point bomb in the Brownies' 7-0 run and just like that they only trailed by nine, 56-47.

However, a Westfield buzzer-beater on the shot clock put the visitors back up by 11 with 50 seconds to play. Six seconds later, Diaz, who has a lot of quick for a big man, stole the ball at mid-court and had easy street all the way to the basket. The Bomber had a notion for a big slam-dunk, but Mercadante raced in behind him and despite giving away at least eight inches, went up with the Bomber and stuffed him. Diaz landed on his butt and slid into the brown and orange impact pads covering the walls behind the hoop.

Locals Display A Lot Of Fire & Confidence

Sure, it was a foul and Diaz, who has a soft touch, hit both ends of the charity shot. But the Mercadante effort was indicative of the way Agawam, as a team, was playing at that point - with a lot of fire and confidence.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS: Mercadante - 9 points, 3-6 FGS, 0-2 FTS, 3-6 3 points, 1 rebound; Conte - 14 points, 3-8 FGS, 8-10 FTS, 7 REBS, 2 OFF; Stellato - 6 points, 0-4 FGS, 6-7 FTS, 3 REBS; Ellsworth - 8 points, 3-8 FGS, 2-2 FTS, 3 REBS, 1 OFF; Martucci - 8 points, 2-9 FGS, 4-6 FTS, 0-6 3 points, 2 REBS, 1 OFF; Forsman - 3 points, 1-2 FGS, 1-2 3 points.

AGAWAM TEAM: FGS, 12-37 (32 percent), FTS, 20-27 (74 percent), 3 POINTS, 4-16 (25 percent), REBOUNDS, 16, 4 OFF, TURNOVERS - 9, POINTS ALLOWED OFF TO's, 9.

WESTFIELD TEAM: FGS, 25-45 (55 percent), FTS, 8-17 (47 percent), 3 POINTS, 4-10 (40 percent), REBOUNDS, 24, 7 OFF, TURNOVERS - 11.

JV NOTE: The Brownie JV's lost to Westfield, 54-44. Mario Maloni had 16 points. Josh Spinner contributed 13.

* * * * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

* * * * *

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Boys' Skiing...

Brownies Compete At Pioneer Valley IAC Individuals

The Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Conference Individual Ski Championship was held on February 8th at Berkshire East, climaxing a successful season for the Agawam High School boys' ski team.

This is a day where all the racers compete individually for medals in slalom, giant slalom, and combined. All 23 teams are allowed to race all of their skiers (including the JV's), bringing the total number of racers to approximately 250. Medals are awarded to the top 10 finishers in each discipline.

Senior captain Jack Pearson led Agawam with his two best finishes of the season. In the morning, the boys ran the giant slalom course. Pearson ran the GS course in 28.07 seconds, finishing just out of the medals at 11th. The afternoon run was the slalom, which is Pearson's best discipline. This time, he earned a medal by finishing sixth with a time of 38.05 seconds. These two times allowed Pearson to finish seventh in the combined and earned him a second medal.

During the awards ceremony, Pearson also received a trophy for placing eighth overall in the A Division for the regular season. Coach Olson added that not only did Pearson have a fantastic year on the hill, he is a complete captain who is respected by his teammates and makes sure things get done. He will be missed next year.

Brandon Donovan was the next Agawam racer, finishing 14th in the giant slalom with a time of 28.31 seconds and 21st in the slalom at 40.73 seconds. Combined, Donovan finished 18th. Sean DeVall, the third-place Agawam skier, had a personal best in the slalom and also fared well in the GS.

Pearson, Donovan, and DeVall were all seeded racers, which is an accomplishment in itself, as you have to finish in the top 10 in at least one regular-season race to be seeded. All three also qualified for the state meet on March 1st by finishing in the top 30 for the season; Pearson (eighth), DeVall (23rd), and Donovan (29th).

It is always easy to praise the top performers on any sports team, but it must be pointed out that as individual as skiing can be, there have been enormous contributions put in by the team.

Bill Campana finished in the top three for the team in five of the seven races, and barely missed qualifying for the state meet (finishing 34th individually). Coach Olson is excited at having three of his top four racers back next year.

This team had considerable difficulty getting all of its top four racers to finish well all on the same day. Therefore, it became necessary that all of the others step up to the task. It was not just one person stepping up.

Nick Broska, Tim Chretien, Adam Escobar, Jim Evans, and Adam Tappley all had times used for team scores in one or more meets. Freshmen Brian Marsh and Ryan Patenaude worked hard for the JV's and will surely see varsity action next year. All of these athletes showed tremendous improvement over the year and will be returning next year.

This team worked very hard, including giving part of their Christmas vacation and some weekends to improve themselves, to meet the needs of the team. The coach pointed out that this hard work and dedication continues to make Agawam one of the top ski programs in Western Massachusetts.

Besides being a serious day of racing for the athletes, it is a fun day as well. Each year, the parents' association provides food such as chili, meatball grinders, tortellini soup, and clam chowder. In a close vote, the Agawam parents edged the Westfield parents as being the best organized and having the best food. It was rumored that the fresh ground pepper put Agawam over the top. This is a distinction the Agawam parents have garnered each of the last few years.

Many thanks should go out to all the parents and especially to Mr. & Mrs. Charest, who have coordinated this feast for the last few years. It is unfortunate that this will be their last year as Laura, the last racing Charest (older brother Steven graduated in 1998), moves on to college. It was also obvious that the Agawam contingent was the most enthusiastic and vocal.

* * *

You turn our pages for all the hometown sports news, each and every week...

* * *

Brownies End Season Tied For 3rd In "A" Division

Going into the last race of January, Agawam was in fourth place behind Holyoke, Westfield, and Mohawk Trail. This race started rather routinely for Agawam, as Jack Pearson ran the slalom course in a time of 39.50 seconds. This earned him a number eight finish on the mountain and a number seven finish in the "A" Division.

Sean DeVall finished second for Agawam with a time of 43.32 seconds, and Bill Campana finished third at 44.87 seconds. Things were going well for Agawam, with their first three racers turning in good times.

On this particular day, however, the course setter decided to put in a trick gate at the bottom of the course. Brandon Donovan, running fourth, was caught by the trick gate and had to hike back up to avoid being disqualified. This cost him valuable time.

Agawam did manage to edge by Holyoke, as Adam Escobar came through with a time of 51.41 seconds. This put Agawam in a tie for third place with Holyoke.

February 1st brought warmer temperatures and soft snow conditions for the giant slalom race. Sometimes the snow conditions will dictate that day's race order. Coach Olson decided to run his number four racer first to clear the course for the usual higher racers.

This strategic move backfired for the coach in a good way. Brandon Donovan blasted through the tough conditions for a time of 27.53 seconds and a number nine (seventh in the "A" Division) finish on the mountain. This qualified Donovan to be seeded for Individual Day on February 8th and put him in the hunt to qualify for the state meet later in the month.

Jack Pearson came next in the order, having a clean run and finishing with a time of 27.95 seconds. This put him at 14th (11th in the "A" Division) on the mountain. Sean DeVall came next with a time of 28.82 seconds. This put Agawam in a good position in its battle with Holyoke for third place, as Holyoke's second racer had fallen and not completed the course.

Bill Campana, however, who has been solid all year, had a tough run, falling in the early part of the course. This meant that it was up to the lower half of the order for both teams to decide the outcome.

Nick Broska, running fifth for Agawam, had a time of 30.46 seconds, which allowed Agawam to edge by Holyoke by slightly under a second and put them one point ahead in the standings.

Going into the last race of the regular season, Agawam was determined to maintain its hold on



AT THE BAY STATE GAMES ON JANUARY 29TH: Bill Campana, Sean DeVall, and Jack Pearson.

third place. They needed a third- or fourth-place finish in this race to finish in third for the season.

Jack Pearson, who has become a slalom specialist and has finished in the top 10 each slalom race, came through again with a sixth-place finish in the division with a time of 39.13 seconds.

Then the problems began, with both the two and three skiers having difficulties and not scoring. Sean DeVall fell and did not finish, and Bill Campana missed a gate and was disqualified.

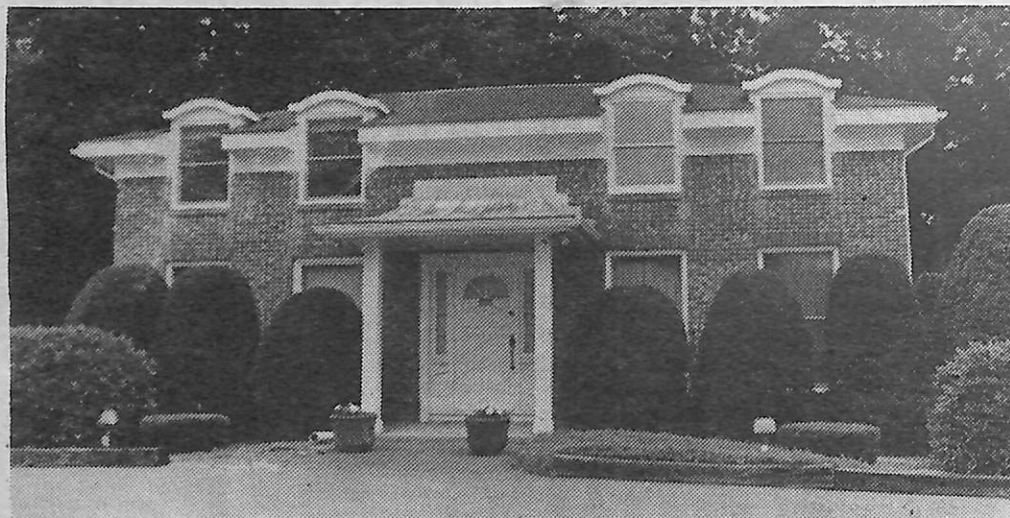
Brandon Donovan, coming off a top 10 finish in the giant slalom in the previous race, ran the course in 45.01 seconds for the second Agawam time. As has been typical for this team, it came down to needing good times from the fifth through eighth racers.

Nick Broska (52.54), Tim Chretien (49.42), and Adam Tappley (49.51) all completed clean runs, which gave Agawam a choice of times. Coming out of the number eight spot is always difficult to produce times that will score for the team. Adam Escobar did that, however, with his best run of the year in a time of 47.44 seconds to be the third best time for Agawam. Escobar is coming back from a training injury which sidelined him for the entire previous year.

Agawam, despite the difficulties, finished fourth in this race. This allowed them to finish the season tied with Holyoke for third place in the very competitive "A" Division. Mohawk Trail edged by Westfield for the "A" championship.

Congratulations should go out to four Agawam racers who recently competed in the Bay State Games at Jiminy Peak Ski Area. Bill Campana, Sean DeVall, and Jack Pearson from the boys' team, and Caroline Scherpa from the girls' team, represented Agawam well.

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Profile...

Joe Stellato Is A Hard-Working Leader For AHS's Boys' Varsity Basketball

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Joe Stellato is a member in good standing of the Agawam High boys' basketball team. Recently, the senior took some time out to talk about himself and his days as a Brownie.

Joe is 17 years-old. His birthday falls on April 6th. He stands 6'2" tall and weighs 165 pounds. All four years of his secondary education have been at the High School.

Currently, his course load includes chemistry, integrated math, English 12, two cooking courses, and gym. He has been a member of the honor roll.

His favorite course at the High School was Italian, which he took from his freshman to his junior year. Vladimir Orefice (Italian) is his top teacher.

A 2000 Corvette would be his car of choice.

The Portland Trail Blazers' Scotty Pippen is his top jock.

The Holyoke Mall is his favorite place to hang out and relax.

His dress is casual, from Abercrombie and Fitch to Old Navy, etc.

Hip-hop music suits Joe's taste in tunes.

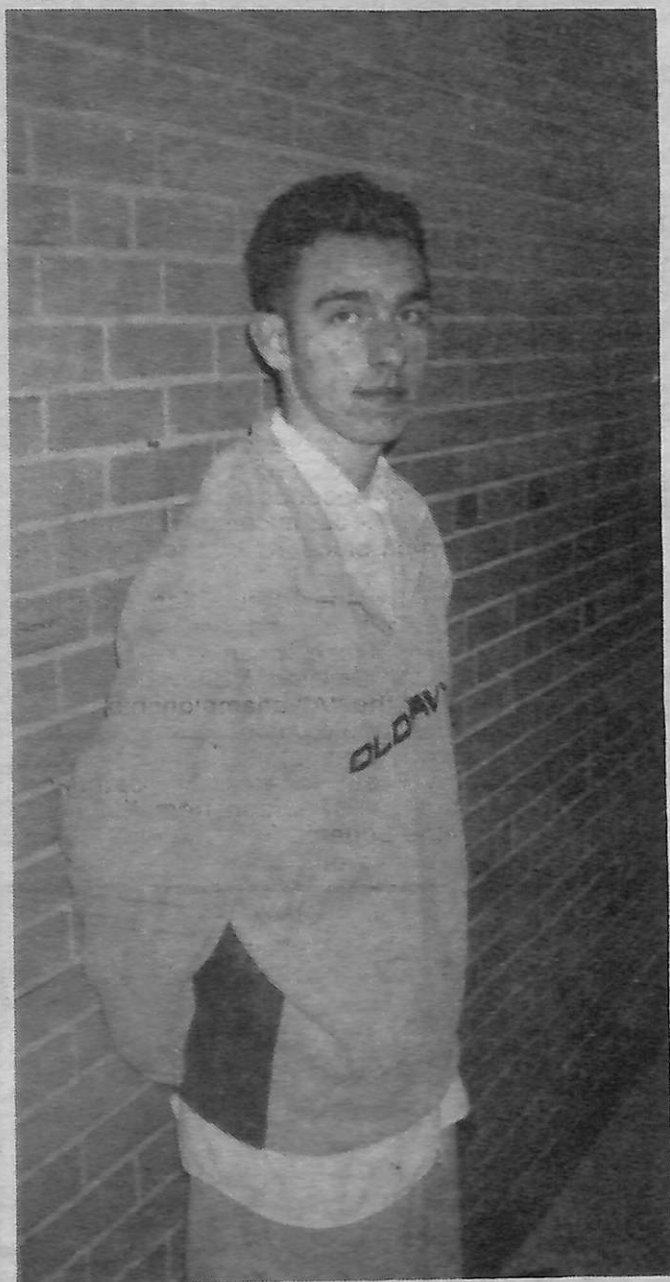
"The Wayans Brothers Show" is tops on the tube for him.

"Scarface" starring Al Pacino is his favorite flick.

Brita is his mom. Joe is his dad. He has two brothers; Anthony, a freshman, and Peter, who is in the seventh grade. He also has a sister, Gabrielle, who is 11 years-old.

His mom is the person he looks up to the most. He'd like his legacy at AHS to be this: "I would like to be remembered as a kid who gave his best, no matter what, and played my heart out."

"Joe is a hard worker and a leader. As a senior, the season has been tough on him. He knows the situation and continues to play his best," varsity hoop Coach Brian Alves said.



JOE STELLATO, a member of Agawam High School's boys' varsity basketball team for the past two years. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

He has no concrete plans for college at this time, but UMass interests him.

His sport at AHS is basketball, where he's been a member of the varsity for two years. He's currently averaging 6.4 points a game and is second on the team with eight three-pointers. His season high this year was 16 points in a game on January 21st against Sci-Tech.

His most memorable sports moment came in a town league semi-final playoff game when he scored 23 points and had six three-point field goals.

His take on the Brownie basketball season this far, which at this writing sees them at 0-16 in a rebuilding year, is this: "We have a lot of young players. I'm trying to help them out. I don't want to be selfish and take anything away from them, because they are the future of basketball here."

Joe's favorite food is shepherd's pie.

Blue is his top hue.

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Profile...

AHS Diver Stephanie Harnois To Compete At WMass. Swimming Tourney

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

This weekend, Agawam High senior Stephanie Harnois will be diving in the Western Mass. Swimming Tournament at Springfield College. Recently, the senior took some time out to talk about her days as a Brownie.

Stephanie is 18 years-old. Her birthday was February 2nd. She has spent all four of her secondary education years at AHS, with trips to the Pioneer Valley Collaborative in Chicopee included in her schooling. Currently, she is taking landscaping, horticulture, conceptual reading, environmental science, and algebra one/part two.

Her favorite course is environmental science. Stephanie is a member of the Renaissance Club. Her top teacher goes back to her kindergarten days - Mrs. Linda Orr.

with an overall record of 5-7 and a 5-5 slate in the B Division. "The parents of the swimmers were very supportive. It's the first team I've been on where everyone was so kind and generous," she noted.

Pizza and spaghetti are her favorite foods. Blue is her favorite color.

When she wants to kick back and relax, it's usually in her room, listening to some good music.

As far as music goes, Stephanie says she likes everything.

She likes casual clothes - jeans and khakis. And like most of the kids, she shops for them at the Holyoke Mall.

"The Wizard of Oz" is her favorite movie.

Trish is her mom. Pete is her dad. She has two sisters, fraternal 14-year-old twins, Elizabeth and Lindsay.

Her mom is the person she looks up to.

When her days at AHS are over, Stephanie says she wants to be remembered by the initials P.I.T.A. "The ones who know me will know what that means," she smiled.

Brownie diving Coach Keith Parro, who was All-Western Mass. in that discipline when he was at Agawam High, had this to say about Stephanie: "She is a very easy kid to coach. She is intelligent and learns fast. Stephanie is also a leader and it's great to see her make the WMass. Tournament."



STEPHANIE HARNOIS

Right now, Stephanie isn't sure about college. Stephanie is a former gymnast who specialized in the balance beam. But now it's the diving board on the Agawam High girls' swim team. Occasionally, she also competes in a swimming event or two. She enjoys diving. "I always wanted to try it, so I finally did." She smiled. Her skill has made her among the top 10 schoolgirl divers in Western Mass.

Stephanie is looking forward to the weekend, but admits to being nervous about her first appearance in the WMass Tournament. "Yeah, it's a big thing for me. I just hope I do well and our teams also do well."

While she likes diving, Stephanie admits her most memorable sports moment came on the balance beam in her gymnastic days.

"Awesome" is how she describes the 1999-2000 swim season at AHS, which saw the girls finish up

From March 7th-9th...

Girls' Lacrosse Clinic Slated For Grades 5-9

The varsity girls' lacrosse team will be conducting its annual lacrosse clinic on March 7th, 8th, and 9th for girls in grades five through nine. The cost of the clinic is \$25 for the three days, and will be held at the Agawam Junior High gymnasium from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

This is a great opportunity to learn the basic skills of catching, throwing, cradling, and shooting. There will be drills, practice time, and small game play.

Sticks will be provided if needed. Registration forms can be picked up at the Agawam Middle School and the Junior High.

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Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.

* * *

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Hear Ye!

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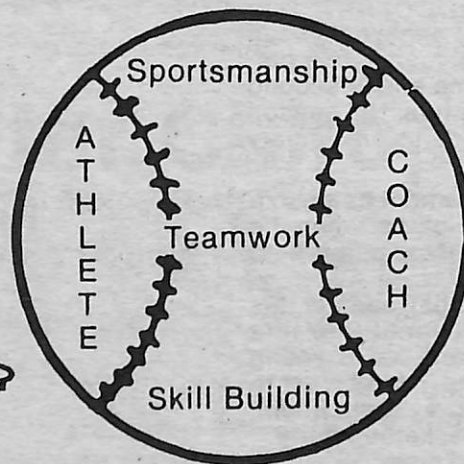
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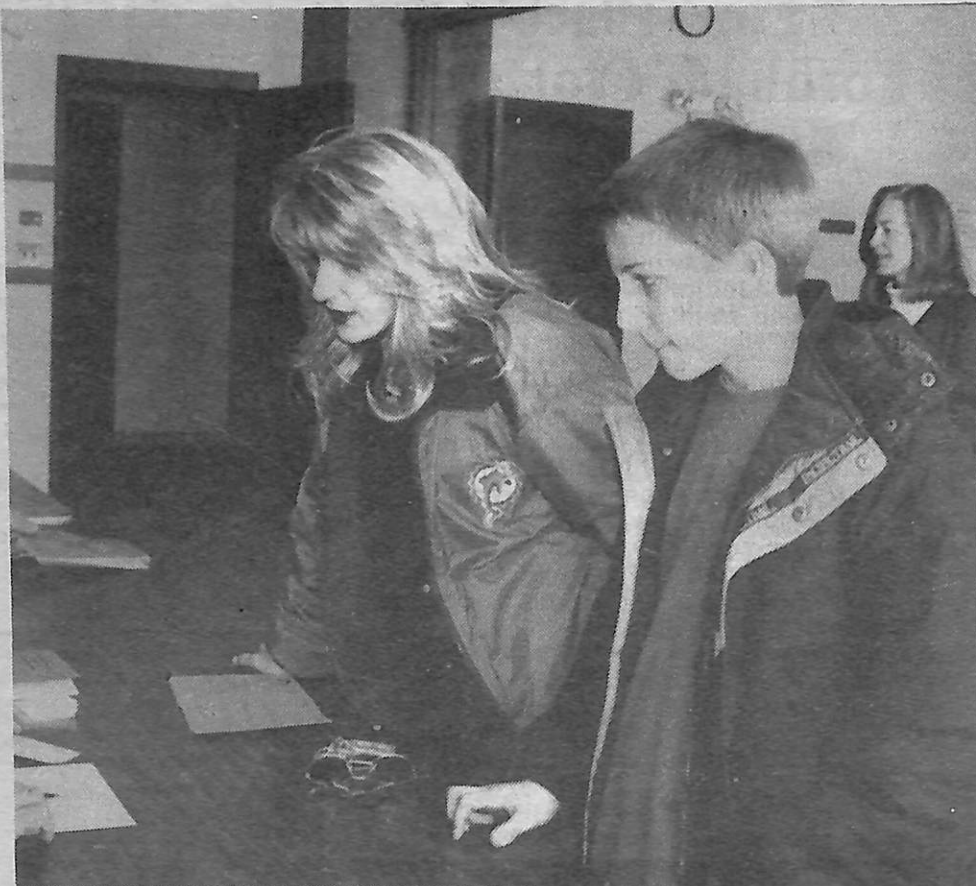
Any Persons Having Uniforms Or Equipment, Please Return Them At The Sign-Up

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Signing Up For S.H.A.A. Baseball & Softball...



LAST SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, February 12th and 13th, the Sacred Heart Athletic Association (S.H.A.A.) held baseball and softball sign-ups for boys and girls at the Sacred Heart Parish Center. The final sign-up for the S.H.A.A. was scheduled for Thursday, February 17th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. IN LEFT PHOTO: Tom Hamilton (S.H.A.A. board member), Tiffany Littlefield, Laurie Littlefield (with Robert), Norm Gilbert, Steve Gould, and Stephanie Littlefield. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Julie Gurau and Nicholas Gurau at one of the sign-ups. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

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In Tri-Parish Bowling News...

First-Place Fordham Clobbers St. Louis, 4-0

On Monday, February 7th, in the Tri-Parish Bowling League, Fordham struggled to the top again with a whitewash over St. Louis, 4-0. This match marked the return of "Jolly" Olly Muldrew, who needed help from Jan "Steady" Fuller to overcome Glen "Not Sam" Adams (who rolled a 332 total).

"Steady" ran off a series of 102, 100, and 100 for a 302, and "Jolly" recovered from an 86 start to finish at 313. He was heard to say, "What a great night — no pain in the legs at all!" Jim "Big Mac" McCormack never unleashed his Mac attack and left "Not Sam" alone to carry the load.

St. Mary took Catholic University, 3-1, even though Kathy "Big Cat" Burlingham ran off a 368 series which included strings of 139 and 130 for CU. Don "Reb" Stitt rolled a 323 series, and Rich "Golden" Snyder came through with a 347 (which started with a 138) to bowl big for St. M.

Boston College ran over Georgetown, 3-1. Betsy "Loaded" Cannon stayed with opposing anchor bowler, "Mighty" Debbie Poirier, at 289 each. So it was up to Roger "Rabbit" Josephson to apply all the pressure with a 322 series. The rabbit has been coming on since he got his battery fully charged. Lucy "Not In Peanuts" Menard had a good night for the losers with a 295 series.

In the last match-up, Holy Cross won over Notre Dame, 3-1. HC bowled without anchor Ron "The Don" Menard and still came through with a team effort for the win.

Judy "Vino" Devino must have found some of that good stuff; she rolled a heavy 322 series to carry the team. Flo "Rocky" Rochford didn't have one of her good nights, even after starting with a 116. "Rocky" finished at 308 for ND.

STANDINGS AS OF FEBRUARY 7TH:

Fordham	16-8
St. Mary (Round Winner)	15-9
Boston College	14-10
Catholic University (Round Winner)	11½-12½
St. Louis	11-13
Georgetown	10-14
Holy Cross	9½-14½
Notre Dame	9-15

At February 18th Home Game...

Mass. Twisters To Present Special Night For Spfld. Residents

The Massachusetts Twisters, a professional indoor soccer team, will present "Springfield Night" at its home game against the Albany Shockers, Friday, February 18th, in the Eastern States Exposition Coliseum in West Springfield.

All Springfield residents presenting a driver's license or proof of Springfield residency at the Box Office at the February 18th game will be admitted for just \$5. Regular admission tickets are \$8 for adults, and \$6 for youth and students. Children age four and under will be admitted free.

Professional soccer recently came to West Springfield when the Massachusetts Twisters moved its home from Uxbridge, MA, to the Coliseum at the Eastern States Exposition.

The team will play two more home games at the popular location this season: **March 3rd**, versus the Springfield Legend, "Chicopee/Ludlow Night"; and **March 10th**, versus the New Hampshire Granite, "East Longmeadow/Longmeadow/Wilbraham Night."

The doors open at 7:00 p.m. and game time is 8:00 p.m. One-hour pre-game clinics for youth soccer players are held by the pros on game night with advance registration. The \$20 fee includes game-night admission.

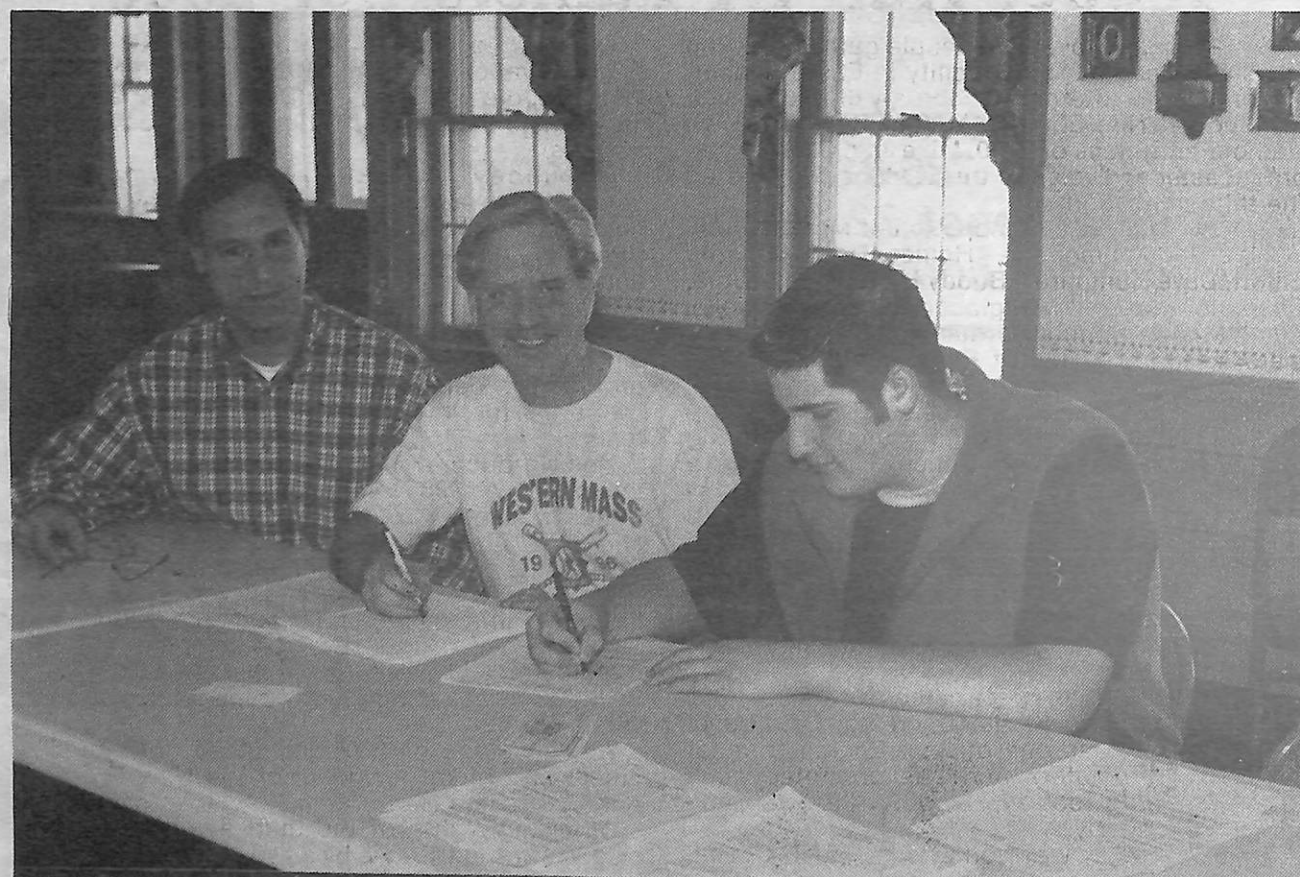
Discount advance tickets are available for \$7 at the Coliseum Box Office and Exposition offices in West Springfield; Agawam Tire and Auto on Springfield Street in Feeding Hills; and at the Twisters' main desk inside the Coliseum. Group rates are \$5 per ticket with the purchase of 15 or more tickets in advance.

The Coliseum is also home to the Massachusetts Youth Indoor Soccer League. For more information, call Paul or Cathy Lapointe at (413) 569-1920.

Babe Ruth League Holds Sign-Ups...



ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH, the Agawam Babe Ruth League (in association with the Agawam Little League) held a sign-up at the Captain Leonard House on Main Street in Agawam. From left to right: Peter Donah, Bill Leydon, Dean Hoppe, Dave Costa, Matthew Oleksak (with his mom, Rita), and Rob Danie. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



WILLIAM BONINI, WILLIAM WALSH, AND JOSEPH BONINI at the Agawam Babe Ruth League sign-up at the Captain Leonard House on Saturday, February 12th. The league consists of five teams (ages 13-15), and its games are played at Shea's Field and at St. John's from the end of April to the beginning of July. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

For Brown University's Women's Basketball Team...

Barbara Maloni Named Ivy League Rookie Of The Week For 2nd Time

Freshman Barbara Maloni has earned Ivy League Rookie of the Week honors for the second time this season in women's basketball for Brown University.

Maloni recently tallied career-highs with 30 points and eight rebounds while recording four steals against Cornell. During the previous night against Columbia, she tallied 23 points, six boards, and three steals.

The 1999 Agawam High graduate is currently leading the Bears in scoring and in assists, averaging 14.4 points and 2.6 assists per game. Maloni is also averaging 2.8 steals per game. The 5'9" guard leads the team in minutes played, averaging 32.9 minutes per game.

The Brown women's basketball team is currently 5-17, 0-8 in Ivy League action.

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street (in the Crossroads Shoppes), Feeding Hills, or mail them (with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.



AT THE NEW ENGLAND ANTIQUE RACERS Hall of Fame induction ceremony: back row — Mike Caruso (accepting for his father, "Fats"), Don LaJoie, Jim Rosenblum (accepting for "Jocko" Maggiacomo), and Ron Narducci; front row — Homer Drew, Dave Humphrey, Charlie Elliott, George Summers, and "Buddy" Krebs.

New England Antique Racers Induct Hall Of Famers For 2000

A full house of over 425 people gathered at the LaRenaissance banquet facility in East Windsor, CT, on Sunday afternoon, February 6th, to formally induct the New England Antique Racers (NEAR) Hall of Fame class of 2000. Mike Joy, CBS Sports broadcaster and voice of the Daytona 500, hosted the third annual affair.

Joy commanded the induction of Mario "Fats" Caruso (posthumously), Homer Drew, Charlie Elliott, Dave Humphrey, Buddy Krebs, Don LaJoie, Chauncey "Jocko" Maggiacomo (posthumously), Ralph Moody, Ronnie Narducci, and George Summers as the first Hall of Fame inductees of the new millennium.

Mario "Fats" Caruso was celebrated as a class of 2000 member by racing columnist and Spring Sizzler tri-creator Bruce Cohen. Caruso was a former NEAR champion and one of Modified racing's most respected drivers.

Homer Drew was presented as a NEAR Hall of Fame member by mainstay Beech Ridge Motor Speedway announcer Bruce Elder. Drew is a five-time Beech Ridge Motor Speedway champion and the only driver to have won at all six Maine racetracks.

Charlie Elliott was bestowed as a class of 2000 inductee by Spring Sizzler tri-creator Lew Boyd. Elliott is known as one of New England's most successful promoters and has promoted such tracks as Star Speedway, Lee USA Speedway, and Hudson Speedway.

Dave Humphrey was conferred as a NEAR Hall of Fame member by renowned racing writer Bones Bourcier. Humphrey is ranked second on the all-time NEMA win list and has collected championships at Seekonk Speedway, Norwood, and Waterford Speedbowl.

Buddy Krebs was presented as a class of 2000 inductee by CBS/TNN Sports broadcaster Dr. Dick Berggren. Krebs is a seven-time Riverside Park Speedway track champion and a member of the Riverside Park Speedway Hall of Fame.

Don LaJoie was bestowed as a NEAR Hall of Fame member by Charlie Mitchell of the Norwalk Hour. LaJoie is a five-time Danbury Arena champion and is the track's all-time victory leader with 58 wins.

Chauncey "Jocko" Maggiacomo was celebrated as a class of 2000 inductee by esteemed racing writer Pete Zanardi. Maggiacomo was a three-time Riverside Park Speedway champion and one of racing's most innovative pioneers.

Ralph Moody, who was unable to attend, was conferred as a NEAR Hall of Fame member by racing historian R.A. Silva. Bugs Stevens accepted on Moody's behalf. Moody is best known as co-owner of the famous Holman-Moody NASCAR team.

Ron Narducci was presented as a class of 2000 inductee by 1998 NEAR Hall of Fame inductee Rene Charland. Narducci earned track championships at Stafford Motor Speedway, Waterloo Speedway, and Waterford Speedbowl.

George Summers was bestowed as a NEAR Hall of Fame member by long-time friend and 1981 NASCAR Winston Cup rookie of the year Ron Bouchard. Summers is a two-time Seekonk Speedway track champion and the track's all-time win leader.

All ten class of 2000 inductees now join 20 others as official members of the New England Antique Racers Hall of Fame.

Other highlights of the third annual affair included stirring tributes by all 10 of the afternoon's presenters and emotional acceptance speeches by the seven inductees in attendance. Also, a donation of \$1,500 to the NEAR Hall of Fame by John Holland and Mike Joy of New England Racing Fuel received significant applause.

For more information on the New England Antique Racers Hall of Fame, including how you can view their traveling Hall of Fame display, call (860) 569-1299 or (413) 786-1012.

Five Lady Gymnasts From Daggett's Compete At Level 6 Sectional Meet

Several members of the Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics Women's Team from Agawam competed February 6th at a Level 6 Sectional Meet in West Roxbury.

The meet, held at Charles River Gymnastics Academy, exhibited the effort and training put forth by the gym as five competitors qualified for State competition.

Notable performances in the 9-10 age group included Caitlin Ranstrom from Feeding Hills, whose 9.05 on vault and 8.75 on floor exercise scored two second places and helped her to capture second place in All-Around, scoring 33.95.

Jaime Basilone of West Springfield followed closely behind with an 8.85 on vault and 8.6 on

floor, earning her a fourth and a sixth, and fifth in the All-Around, scoring 33.45.

Kimberly Denué of East Windsor, CT took a third place on beam with an 8.3 and fifth on floor with an 8.65.

Mia Siameri of East Longmeadow scored well on vault and floor as well, with an 8.3 and 8.1, respectively.

Danielle Lee of Windsor Locks, CT competed in the 12-13 year-old group and took home a fifth on vault with an 8.65 and a fourth in floor, scoring 8.7. In All-Around, her total of 32.9 will allow her to move on. Her twin, Christie, sat out due to injury. Those who didn't qualify will have another chance in March.



Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Sportsman's Show Headed For The Big E...

Outdoor sportsmen from all over the Northeast can take heart! The largest pure Outdoor Sportsman's Show will open at the Big E on the 24th of February. This is the sure sign that the end of the winter blues is in sight.

This is the one time and place where area sportsmen (and women, of course) can find almost everything related to their favorite pursuits on display and at special show prices.

The Outdoor Sports Expo Group always does a fine job promoting this giant event every year. Guides, outfitters, charter boat captains, party boats, dog trainers, and an assortment of some of the best seminars on hunting and fishing will be there for all.

Free seminars from the experts in hunting and fishing techniques will run all day in the various seminar rooms. This may be one of the most important but sometimes under-utilized features of the show.

Every year, I travel to fishing seminars all over New England, picking the brains of some of the top fresh and salt water experts. The cost of these seminars is usually greater than the cost of admission to the show at the Big E. Be wise and schedule a couple of days at the show. Take in the seminars that interest you. Everything from fly fishing to salt water big game will be featured.

Hunters can learn from some of the most successful deer and turkey hunters in the country. Dave Krassler of Citari Kennels will be giving water dog retrieving demos at the pool and will answer questions on hunting dogs and how to train them. Every minute that the owner of a hunting dog spends at Dave's "on the water" demonstrations, is an education in itself.

Dave Krassler is the breeder and trainer of my own hunting buddy, "Ollie." I can give first-hand confidence that what Dave "preaches and teaches" is "gospel" as far as dog training is concerned. If you have a hunting dog or are thinking of buying one, stop by and say hello to one of the most knowledgeable trainers on the circuit. Rumor has it that Citari Kennels may have a few litters for sale, out of some of the best hunting stock in the U.S.

If you are looking for a dog for the upcoming bird seasons, speak up soon, as usually the "insiders" have their orders in long before the litters are born.

Capt. Bill Brown of Billfish Charters will be giving big-game fishing demos and will show the proper techniques of battling a 200-pound scuba fish. This is always an entertaining show, as Bill usually lets some strapping "linebacker" types try and land the diver. Sometimes, based on sheer strength, they manage to do so.

Then, just to "rub it in," he takes a frail little woman and quickly schools her in the way to handle a big fish, and she can usually land the diver in short order and without the exertion used when a novice tries it. (Hint: this is a good session to witness and pay close attention to!)

During one of the tuna trips I went on two years ago, I watched a dedicated weightlifter and bodybuilder get his butt whipped by a yellowfin that went less than 140 pounds. I don't remember if this guy actually had a neck, but his shoulders were about five feet wide and his arms were bigger around than my thighs. His buddy had to take over the rod halfway through the fight. There are some secrets on how to let the tackle do the work, and he didn't know them!

Stop by the Northeast Woods and Waters booth and say hello, as I probably will be there for most of the show. Enjoy one of the best values in outdoor education and have fun!

* * *

*Kent Servis' "Outdoors
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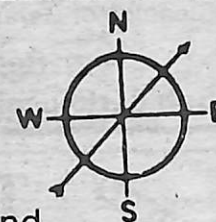


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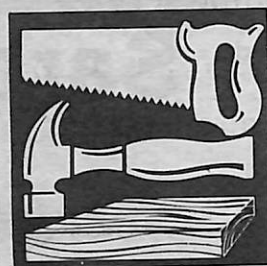
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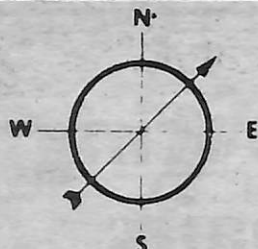
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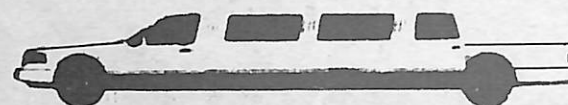
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